

J.R. Saunders

London.

Sept. 1937.


W. H. & A. R. Saunders

WITHDRAWN FROM
THE LIBRARY

UNIVERSITY OF
WINCHESTER

KA 0198455 1





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2024

<https://archive.org/details/edmondironside0000unse>

PRINTED FOR THE MALONE SOCIETY
BY JOHN JOHNSON AT THE
OXFORD UNIVERSITY
PRESS

EDMOND IRONSIDE,
OR,
WAR HATH MADE ALL
FRIENDS

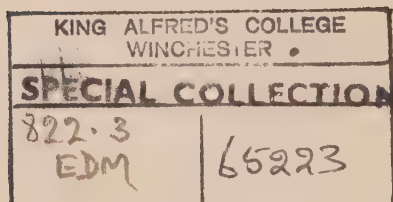
THE MALONE SOCIETY
REPRINTS

1927

This edition of *Edmond Ironside* has been prepared by Eleanore Boswell and checked by the General Editor.

April 1928.

W. W. Greg.



Printed in Great Britain

Edmond Ironside stands fifth in the collection of manuscript plays preserved in the British Museum as MS. Egerton 1994, of which it constitutes folios 96 to 118. The first page bears the title *Edmond Ironside* in large roman capitals, while beneath it is written in Italian script 'The English King'. The verso of this page is blank and the text begins at the top of folio 97^a with the head-title 'A trew Cronicle History called | Warr hath made all freindes'. The first line is remarkable for its elaborate imitation of black-letter type; the second, which has been deleted, is in elegant Italian script. The text ends on 118^a and the verso is blank. The manuscript, in folio, is written on sheets which have been cut in two and mounted for binding. Since many of the edges are worn and in one or two instances have been trimmed, it is impossible to determine exactly the original size of the paper, but in most cases fairly accurate measurements can be made and show a variation in height from $11\frac{1}{2}$ to $12\frac{1}{8}$ inches and in width from $7\frac{3}{10}$ to $7\frac{9}{10}$. The play seems to have been written on an assortment of various makes of paper, for the watermarks show no less than five different pots as well as a very elaborate design of entwined columns surmounting a monogram. I have been unable to identify any of them in Briquet's plates, but designs similar to the last (based on Charles IX's device) were current throughout the second half of the sixteenth century and are found as late as 1631. The pot is of course too common to be of much use as a clue to date. The arrangement of the watermarks is shown in the following scheme, in which the numerals stand for the various pot marks, x for the entwined columns, and o indicates an unmarked leaf.

o		1	o		2	o		o	3		o	3		3	o		o	4	
96,	97,	98,	99,	100,	101,	102,	103,	104,	105,	106,	107,	108,							
4		o		5	o		o	o		o	x		x	o					
109,	110,	111,	112,	113,	114,	115,	116,	117,	118										

This at once suggests that 96 is a separate leaf, since only on this assumption do we get a regular sequence of sheets: eight

with a pot mark, one without watermark, and two with an entirely different mark. The half sheet on which the title is written may possibly have been a whole one intended to serve as a cover, for the first five leaves as they now stand are of heavier paper than the rest and appear to be alike.

The condition of the manuscript is clearly shown in the accompanying plates, one of which reproduces the lower half of the last folio, the one which has fared worst. As already noted, the upper and lower edges of all the leaves have suffered to some extent, but by far the greatest damage has befallen the outer edges, which are very badly worn just where the pages would be thumbed in turning. It would, however, have taken a great amount of thumbing to destroy so much paper, and some other agent, a mouse or damp, probably contributed to the mutilation. Although the side margins are generous, the beginnings and ends of some lines have been lost. The damage is not so extensive as to obscure the sense, but there is no telling what marginal addenda have been obliterated.

The manuscript is not an autograph but a scribe's copy, as is shown by the nature of numerous minor errors and corrections, and is also suggested by the character of the writing. The hand, though well formed, is very uneven and often produces an untidy appearance. It is, however, of a very formal and distinctly legal type, and one could imagine the manuscript having been written by a broken-down scrivener's clerk. The hand is of a kind which it is impossible to date with much accuracy: it might have been written at any time within a generation or so before or after 1600. The first few pages of the manuscript present by far the best appearance. After his elaborate head-title, the scribe made an obvious effort to 'write fair', and for the first seven pages he left wide margins at top and bottom. Then he seems to have come to the conclusion that he was being too extravagant, for he began to fill the pages and even to crowd them, but the amount he got in varies from page to page with the size of his writing.

He frequently writes large minuscule forms for capitals and vice versa, but is quite inconsistent in his usage. An Italian capital at the beginning of a word in English script is frequent, and his use of Italian script for proper names is entirely arbitrary. Certain peculiarities of spelling are perhaps his own, although they may derive from the original manuscript. We find *saffer*, *saffest*, *Ironsid*, *cape* (for *cap*), and *sighthes* (for *sighs*): forms all current in the fifteenth century but antiquated in the days of Elizabeth. In line 897 we find 'Mess[]age'. The deleted letter is illegible but may be *u*, and if so would certainly suggest the scribe's familiarity with legal phraseology. Perhaps the same inference might be drawn from *ēds* l. 382, if, as seems probable, it is a slip for *ōēs*, i. e. *omnes*. The contraction would be more familiar to a legal than to a lay writer.

The scribe's ink varies considerably in colour. This may be due to fading, but it makes it difficult to say whether certain alterations are his or not. He probably went over his own work, added some punctuation, and made a few small deletions and alterations. Those of most importance are *answer* (511), *lesse* (593), and *guerdition* (1654), although the ink in which the last is written looks like that used by the stage reviser, of whom more anon. We may assume that the scribe embodied in his copy any alterations already made in the original, but he has left no clue to the vicissitudes of the earlier manuscript, and if this bore the licence of the Master of the Revels, no indication of the fact remains in the copy.

The most important alterations and additions may be ascribed to the stage reviser, whose work shows that the play was prepared for acting and was in all probability acted. This reviser has marked in the margin the acts (but not the scenes), deleted numerous short passages, added a stage direction, corrected an error in the assignment of a speech, and written in the margin the names of actors who were to take various minor parts. The latter would scarcely have been assigned unless production were assured. At first sight, the actors' names appear to be written

by a different person. They are in a large sprawling hand, written with a very thick pen. But in other plays in the collection, namely, *The Captives*, *Thomas of Woodstock (Richard II)*, and *Two Noble Ladies*, we find the same reviser at work, and a study of his hand shows clearly that in *Edmond Ironside* additions which appear to be in different hands must nevertheless all be ascribed to him.

The additions which are most certainly his are at ll. 352, 382, 643, 733, 735, 813, 872, 882, 914 (at left), 956, 958, 1014, 1097, 1270, 1391, 1454, 1458, 1614, 1694. In all probability it was he who attempted the two alterations at lines 16 and 1446, and the interlineation at line 384. While it is impossible to deny that he may have made the second addition at line 914, it is equally impossible to assert that it is his. The passages he has marked for omission are ll. 124-6, 172-3, 187-9, 210-3, 247-50, 292, 300, 321-3, 377-80, 441-4, 527-33, 582, 601-2, 605, 617-29, 771-3, 835-6, 878, 889-90, 912, 941-7, 999-1000, 1025-6, 1058-9, 1090-6, 1118-21, 1170-1, 1176, 1183-90, 1208-10, 1291-6, 1337-8, 1341-2, 1367-70, 1391, 1412, 1505-6, 1619-20, 1645-7, 1659, 1664-7, 1677, 1680-1, 1701-2, 1764, 1803-5, 1839-40, 1845-6, 1850-1, 1921-2, 1949-51, 1954-7, 2014-6. There is no indication that any of these were deleted in compliance with stipulations of the Master of the Revels, but it does seem possible that ll. 377-80 and 1645-7 were deleted to forestall official criticism. The number of cuts made in a play of just over 2000 lines seems explicable only in view of some special, perhaps provincial, presentation.

A number of alterations and deletions remain to be ascribed to one or more individuals for whom I am at a loss to account. *Edricus* prefixed to line 1637 appears to be in the same hand as *The English King* on the titlepage. Some one who used watery grey ink, very different from any other in the manuscript, has deleted the second line of the head-title and line 41, has attempted a slight alteration at line 138 and a larger and erroneous one at line 159, and has deleted one character who has no lines

in that scene from the stage direction at line 564. Some one else seems to have been responsible for the commas inserted in lines 198 and 200-3, and for the short rules between speeches which are found only as far as folio 103^a inclusive. The following further passages have been marked for omission in a hand or hands that cannot be identified with any certainty: 651-2, 657-8, 669-75, 746-7, 751-3, 763-4, 784, 802-4, 924-6, 1066-7, 1535-6, 1876-80, 1889-95, 1903.

The added stage directions present one or two interesting points. At line 643 the stage reviser has written 'm: Grad: Stutf:' The *m* may be intended for *in*, since it appears to be so used in other plays in the collection revised in the playhouse, namely *The Lady Mother*, folio 191^a, and *Two Noble Ladies*, folio 235^b. In these two cases, however, it clearly indicates an exit, whereas in the present instance it stands opposite the entrance of the two pledges personated by Gradell and Stutfield. The former is called 'm^r gradell' at line 872, but the use of *m* in place of *m^r* would be unusual. What we may consider an illustration of regular playhouse usage is found at line 733, where 'Enter Mess nger [*sic*] H. Gibson' was written in the lower margin in preparation for his entry at the top of the next page. On the whole, however, greater interest attaches to the actual actors' names, which seem to afford reasonable proof that the play was acted in the fourth decade of the seventeenth century. Those named are H. Gibson, Mr. Gradell, May, and Stutfield. The latter two belonged to an unnamed company, in all probability the King's Revels, which was refused leave to play in Norwich in March 1635. Gradell and May had been with Prince Charles's men in 1632, but H. Gibson is known only from this manuscript and two other plays in the same collection. Some years ago Dr. F. S. Boas advanced the view that the whole volume of manuscripts represented the repertory of a London company on tour in the provinces, and it does seem likely that at least some of the plays were prompt copies for provincial performance, but whether by one of the regular London companies is more questionable.

Very little can be said of the history of the collection. It was purchased in 1865 by the British Museum for £33 at the sale of Lord Charlemont's library at Sotheby's (August 11, lot 227). Sir George Warner once made the suggestion that it may have formed part of the younger Cartwright's legacy to Dulwich College, and that Malone, who had many of the Dulwich manuscripts in his possession for considerable periods of time, lent it to Lord Charlemont, who forgot to return it. Since we know that Malone acted as agent for the purchase of a large part of Charlemont's library, we might equally well suppose that he persuaded the college authorities to sell the volume. William Cartwright the younger, who in 1686 bequeathed to Dulwich College 'such of his bookes convenient for a Library as the Master Warden and Schoolmaster shall approve of', is found in the Norwich list with May and Stutfield, and may have come into possession of the company's books when he turned bookseller during the Commonwealth. That his library included manuscripts may perhaps be indicated by a reference in the Chancery records of an ensuing lawsuit to 'stitched and covered books'.

The play itself presents several interesting problems. I have been unable to ascertain on what grounds Halliwell-Phillipps dated it 'about 1647'—a statement accepted by Bullen, and no doubt responsible for the omission of the play from most discussions of Elizabethan drama. There is considerable evidence in the play itself for a much earlier date. It has many characteristics of the semi-Senecan school which flourished in the early nineties: the revenge motive, the self-explanatory villain, the crude horrors perpetrated on the stage, the use of a dumb-show and chorus, the messenger's long descriptions of what is happening off the stage, the moralizing about Fortune, the monotonous end-stopped verse, and the archaic vocabulary. Important indications of early date are the original absence of act and scene divisions, and the stage direction at line 384 which originally read 'Enter a banquet', but in which a later

hand inserted 'with'. The word *Braggadochios*, which is used in line 1071, is first found, according to the *New English Dictionary*, in Spenser's *Faery Queen* (1590). Further evidences of early composition may be found in the Latinized names (Canutus, Edricus) and in various Biblical allusions, notably Edmond's exclamation against Edricus: 'Iudas thie next pte is to kisse my Cheeke' (line 1645). This speech is marked for omission, but it is questionable whether it would have been written much after the accession of James. It would probably be going too far to surmise an allusion to Essex's treachery in the lines (also marked for omission):

England yf ever warr thy face doth spoyle
thancke not thy outward foe but inward frind
for thou shalt never pishe tell that daye
when thie right hand shall make thie harte awaye.

It does, however, seem reasonable to attribute to the sixteenth century a chronicle play so totally devoid of dramatic structure and so closely dependent upon its source, Holinshed. The author's only innovations are the invention of two or three of Canutus' followers, and the transfer to Edricus of the treacheries of other historical personages. Edricus is also made to suggest the single combat which closes the play, whereas Holinshed not only attributes this to a captain in Edmond's army, but gives an alternative account of a peaceful reconciliation brought about by Edricus in good faith. The author includes incidents which have no direct bearing on the plot of his play, and adds to the confusion by borrowing names from the chronicles for the characters he invents, e. g. Egina.

Apart from his lack of dramatic skill, there is little to say of the unknown author. He shows some familiarity with the classics, is addicted to proverbs, and uses four words sufficiently unusual to have escaped the compilers of the *N. E. D.*: *extribute* (766), *cornegraph* (1137), *Cyllens* (1174), and *rentrunn* (1793). *Extribute* may be merely a slip for *extricate*. Stich is mystified when told to fetch a *cornegraph*, and his master explains that

he wants an inkhorn. *Cyllen* (used in the possessive) appears to be an adaptation of Mercury's epithet *Cyllenian*, and *rentrunn* is used of land for which no return has been made to the overlord. The writer can scarcely be called a poet, yet *Edmond Ironside* is the most important extant dramatization of Anglo-Saxon history. *A Knack to Know a Knave*, *Old Fortunatus*, *The Welsh Ambassador*, and the fragment preserved in MS. Egerton 2623 can scarcely be considered serious attempts to present historical matter in dramatic form. Two Latin plays on Alfred and Edward the Confessor are extant, but the English plays *Hardicanute*, and *Earl Godwin and his Three Sons* are lost, as is presumably the *Knewtus* acted on 3 November 1597 by the Admiral's men after their amalgamation with Pembroke's. It has been conjectured that *Knewtus* is the same play as *Hardicanute*, entered by Henslowe (as *Hardwute*) a few days before, and included (as *Hardicanewtes*) in a list of plays belonging to the Admiral's men in March 1598. If, however, *Knewtus* was a separate play, it may possibly have borne some relation to *Edmond Ironside*. The inconclusive nature of the last scene of *Edmond*, particularly Edricus' closing speech, is strongly suggestive of a first part, and it may be that *Knewtus* carried the story to its conclusion. Or the two plays may conceivably be one and the same, for we know that Henslowe was not too accurate in the matter of titles.

LIST OF CHARACTERS

in order of appearance.

CANUTUS, Danish claimant to the English throne.	STICH, Edricus' servant.
The Archbishop of CANTERBURY.	two pledges, the sons of Leofricke and Turkullus.
The Earl of SOUTHAMPTON.	Messenger to Canutus.
EDRICUS, Duke of Mercia.	The Archbishop of YORK.
LEOFRICKE, Earl of Chester.	Canutus' herald.
TURKULLUS, Duke of Norfolk and Suffolk.	two Balifes.
VSKATAULF } Danes in Canutus' service.	Chorus.
SWETHO } service.	ROGER, Edricus' servant.
a company of countrymen, Danes living in England.	GOODWINE } Saxon followers of Edmond.
EDMOND IRONSIDE, Saxon claimant to the English throne.	AYLEWARD } Edmond.
ALFRICKE, his general.	Messenger to Edmond.
EGINA, daughter of the Earl of Southampton.	GUNTHRANUS, a Saxon lord.
EDRICKE, a poor man } Edricus' parents.	EMMA, step-mother of Edmond.
his wife }	ALPHRED } her two young sons.
	EDWARD } her two young sons.
	four soldiers in Canutus' army.
	VLFKETTLE, a follower of Edmond.

FACSIMILES

A New Compendious History called The History of the English Nation

After I have thus shew'd the Bishop of Exeter being Earl of Exeter
 Duke of Cornwallia the first Earl of the first Duke
 Duke of Devon and Earl of Somerset and the Duke of
 Exeter sitt about a table

I have thus shew'd the Bishop of Exeter being Earl of Exeter
 Duke of Cornwallia the first Earl of the first Duke
 Duke of Devon and Earl of Somerset and the Duke of
 Exeter sitt about a table

Gen. Twenty of the wylde of heven m/pe
A fronde of wylde of heven m/pe
is more welcome to mee then florid oger

Oger that wylde of heven m/pe
wylde of heven m/pe
Engelme of the wylde of heven m/pe
Engelme not of the wylde of heven m/pe
for then shall we be at day
wylde of heven m/pe
goe in brave lorde of heven m/pe
Gen. Agamemnon wylde of heven m/pe

Act 2

Exhibit eos

Get. Jemine and Jemine
Enter a banquet. Then Enter
Exhibit eos

Exhibit eos. My lord wylde of heven m/pe
Exhibit eos. My lord wylde of heven m/pe
Exhibit eos. My lord wylde of heven m/pe

Exhibit eos. My lord wylde of heven m/pe
Exhibit eos. My lord wylde of heven m/pe
Exhibit eos. My lord wylde of heven m/pe

marrows. (Dyke you Balises wylde is best to doe
nith not danger wylde)

Hamfins is wylde Enge fgen Enn obage

and to yd gentle wylde Enge fgen not nage

Both 30. f. 1. Dyke are resolved to put Crutius barke

ge comit not fgen yd bated are fcent in name

marrows. I fcent your wylde will put Dyke wylde to name

and yd at pent ge wylde yd is to late

! Bal f. you saw yd answere fto is to yd ge yd

Balises de parte Zorro

reter nage

marrows. Dyke answere fgen my lord is negative

full of danger fcent and fcent full of

is little pear fcent brought fcent fcent wylde

wylde makes fgen to fcent yd wylde wylde

marrows. And dare fgen fcent refuse wylde wylde

fcent fcent fcent fcent by my commandment

wylde fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent

fcent all fcent fcent wylde fcent fcent fcent

wylde fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent

to give a valiant on fcent on fcent fcent fcent

fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent fcent

they fighte theye fledde and Edmonds brough
for us theye bawd to conquer and to kill
even for me theye to pynge/c yo good will
I saym Enter Canutus. singyng Edmond followyng
they fighte theye two kynges parley soude a retreat
and part

Edmond Canutus is begydnyng to be gracious sume
wyse greetd to se my Geap of Charafes
he mangled and besmerch in heint fore
made cast and went to rest before his tyme
soe that he kyngd for want of light. wynd
to ~~all~~ part but all Aurora saye he saye
and now tis morninge and he rogne to fight

Allanum Enter Canutus at one doore and Edmond
at the other theye fighte Canutus gives barbe an
shies Enter he sentend of Edmond perishing
Canutus and his lordes Edricus takes a deud
lynd vppon his boord poynt. Lodmyng he vppo
Edmonds sendend theye fle Enter Edmond
theye fighte theye vpon and make Canutus fwe.

Edmond Edricus perceivinge Canutus to give he doore
and Edmond like to triumph in their fall
out of the bowells of a trayferous Earle
broughte forth his subtil dangerous stratagem
wylle theye two battales draht he dole of drage
and Edmond in the forefront stantly fighte

Cante: My wide my hart is firmly bond to you
and I am prest to doe you anye service
But Admiral is a more strange to me of late
than I am not familiar wth his thoughtes
when I haue one requirall opinion
I will not fayle to be your faithfull agent
In mean tyme make yee stronge to hauid him playe
for hee is cominge wth a mightie power

Embodge his good goodes, his nerves are nought
in his mind, now growne weak, then I doubt
I were loath to see youe of longe game longe
But I must beare a semblance of good nerves
least hee perceave our hopes to faulter
and that would cleane disourage all to me
for all ye summe on thisse follows

Cante: Goodest good nerves

Cante: My wordes exceedinge good

Cante: Give me his letter

Cante: Not for all the world

I dare not trust my self wth readinge
least I forgette wth your letters of late his state
all the while I now am confident
youe sure threanded ten firmestone

That I should be my owne see to mee

that I am id roming wth a mightie post

but I saye, see I be not youe discontented

for were they millions, I shuld be sure for youe
and tyme their weare out upon your side

Cante: Die I should be sure for youe

[illegible]

And I for one tis more yt I coulde bee
 And wifd men can reſonle what they ſee
 and till oration ſitt ygon / Ies ſomgys come
 But I gave ſorrow and I will keep my be
 byt ſtation / Hee bee x wings on both of you
 They ge their hands in hand out off the
 Edricus leadenys the Drum

Finis

{ EDMOND IRONSIDE <

The English King

NOTE.—This title is written on the recto of a single leaf (verso blank) that precedes the text of the play. It would appear to be slightly later than the text itself, though the paper seems to be the same. The alteration of title was no doubt made in the playhouse, though possibly on the occasion of a revival.

All mutilations are indicated by pointed brackets; where letters are printed within the brackets the remains are insufficient to identify them with certainty apart from the context. Deleted words and letters are printed within square brackets: the deletions may be taken to be in the same hand as the writing unless the contrary is stated. Where a deleted reading is illegible the apparent number of letters is indicated by so many dots. All additions in other hands are printed in heavy type.

As far as fol. 103^a the speeches are divided by short rules, which appear to have been added later.

There is no original numbering of pages, leaves, or sheets. The foliation followed here is the pencil numeration running through the whole manuscript.

[Warr hath made all freindes :/]

Enter Canutvs Archbishope of Canterbury Earle of South(am
Edricus Duke of Mercia Leofricke Earle of Chester Tu(rku
Duke of Norff' and Suff' Vskataulf and Swetho Da(
They sitt about a table: .

Canut9:/ Archbishope and yo^u other English peeres
I heare how Egleredus late your kinge
my trybutary is departed life
And how his sonne prince Edmond weares the Crowne
wthout the notice of yo^r free Consent [or]
or homage vnto mee his Soueraigne 10
yo^r selves lord^e Spirituall and Temporall
besides the due my ffathers Conquest Claymes
have Chosen mee
And by an vniversall sound decree
have sollomly throughout this little world
proclaymd mee heire aparant to the Crowne
when [Egle] Egleredus livd[d]
Then lett not this younge vpstart prince of prates } *hee ryse*
Curb yo^r proceeding^e wth vntutord woorde
but fnish boldly what yo^u have begun^e 20
resist his pryvate Coronacōn
and put not vppe this vild dishonor Done

vnto you Cheife Comaunders of the Realme
 as though you weare not worth the sendinge for <
 Arch B:/ Indeed his rashnes is importable
 and meerely nothinge but a proud contempt <
 against vs of the Cleirgie and the rest <
 that have for publique proffitt of the Realme <
 for peace for quiet and vtilitie <
 elected prince Canut⁹ for our kinge < 30
 whose vallo^r wee have provid[d] vnto our Cost
 whose love vnto the Church wee neede not doubt
 whose Care for all we may relye vppon
 and whose true bounty is soe notable
 that even his fooes admire and honor him
 When th'other what hee is I need not tell
 tis to well knowne I would I Could saye well./

1 *Act I, Scene i.* *Canutus*] *v* altered from *g* 9 *or*] smudged out. 11 *Spiritual*]
a altered from beginning of *l* *Temporall*] *r* altered from *l* 12 *Conquest*] there are three
 minims between *o* and *g* 16 *proclaymd*] *md* (possibly *nd*) apparently altered in different
 ink, perhaps over an erasure. 17 *Egle*] *g* probably inserted. *liud*] *d* altered from *e*
 18 *not*] *no* altered from *w* 20 *fnish*] *ni* three minims with dot above the last. 22 *vpppe*]
v altered from *p* 31 *provd*] *d* altered from *e* 37 *knowne*] first *n* blotted, perhaps
 altered.

But as I saw and sawe weare I my selfe *be my selfe*

periest a souldier or a man at armes

as I am one deprived from the world

40

and from my Cradle Calld to serve the Lord]

I would wth lance approve his tytle naught

and plead your Coronaciō wth my sword

Carver. Stout harted Bishope spoken like a Mann

would all the English lordē weare of this minde

South. Am I not redy to defend yo^r right

wth force of armes as doth become a knight

Carver. I neare was slacke or hindmost of the rest

but ever first and foremost wth the best

Carver. Had I not bin a helpe vnto yo^r father

50

when as [yo] he first arived in Albion

you neare had stood in question for the Crowne

nor had your fathers warrs so prospered

Was I that first did Councell Egelred

to paye you trybute and to buye your league

where by wee emptied all the treasurye

and had not Gould sayld yo^r had neare bin kinge.

I had a Navye once the tyme when twas

in Egeiredus daies your father lyveinge

wth wth I should have mett yo^r on the seae

60

wth in the straighes of England and I wis

had then noe lytle vantage on yo^r shipes

yet I as favoringe your party moste

gave waye and lett yo^r land wth out resistance

and for that fact rest foulye scandalizd.

Was yt not I that gave intelligence
of all the Councells of kinge Egelred
vnto yo^r father, did not I I praye
fayne sicknes, weaknes, Disadvantages
whenas the kinge sent mee to fight wth him

70

> was I not Causer of yo^r good successe
> in all yo^r accōns sence yo^r fathers death
> As Namely in that battale lately fought
> et)wene yo^r self and Edmond Ironside
> where I fled from him and did succor you
> Then sence tho'nely ladder vppon w^{ch}
yo^r father Clymed to gett and you to hold
this gotten kindome was my dilligence
I hope yo^u will not the least motion
of an ill thought Creepe in to hinder mee
nor doe I thinke you vsed this speech by mee

80

41 Deleted later in the same manner as the second line of the head-title.
altered, apparently from *b* or *l* 53 *prospored*] *ed* altered. 60 *have*] interlined. 67 *Egelred*] *g* altered from *l* 75 *you*] *y* altered perhaps from beginning of *h* 76 *tho'nely*] sic.
79 *will*] *i* apparently inserted. *not the*] sic, possibly for *not suffer the*

Canut9:/ Whie what need all this repetiçōn

good fayth I meant noe harme in sayeing soe
whie should I doubt yo^u, wherefore should I feare
yo^u never yet deceyved mee: /

I cannot speake but so^me or other straight
misconsters mee

whie by my troth my lord I meant not yo^u
but those that cleive to Edmond Ironside
and hange in parte against my goverment
calme yee therefore and bee not discontent

90

South:/ In token then yo^u meane as yo^u have said

hono^r my Castle wth the name of Courte
and take a subiect welcome from [from] his harte
to signifie yo^u love my towne and mee

Vskataulfe whispereth in Canut9 eare

Vskata:/ Whiy that a tryfle mightie Soveraigne

yeald vnto him in[gt] this petiçōn
yt will Conferme the peoples hart to yo^u
and make him live and dye to hono^r yo^u

100

Canut9:/ I willingly dysscend to yo^r request

and will this night bee wth yo^u at yo^r place

South:/ Ile goe bee fore to Countenaunce yo^r grace

*Exit South: / Enter a Companye of
cuntrymen makeinge a noyse.*

Cuntrymen: Where is the kinge that hee may right o^r wronge

Canut9/ The kinge is heere, whoe is yt Calls the kinge

I am yo^r kinge, speake gentle Cuntrymen
what laules hand hath Done yo^u inivrye

One of the Cuntry:/ Renownd Canut9 wee are all Daines by birth

110

the remnant of thie needye followers

whoe when thie father lived, lived here secure <

and dwelt amongst the fatest of this land <

wee then did yoake the *Saxons* and Compeld <

theire [thei] stoborne neckes to eare the fallow feilde

Wee then did force [vs] them honor vs as lordē

and bee oʳ slaves oʳ drudges and oʳ dogges

But now I know not what the Cause shold bee

vnles the instigacōn of their prince

younge Ironside, or ells their stoborne nature

120

94 The last letter of the deleted *from* was not completed.
mg then deleted *gt* and dotted the first minim.
beginning of *l* 116 *them*] interlined above *vs* deleted.
altered.

98 *in*] the scribe first wrote
109 *laules*] above *u* is apparently the
117 *drudges*] *r* blotted, perhaps

They all rebell and wth Conioyned force
 assault vs manly and from every pte
 of this perturbed Iland banish vs

wee are not able to resist theire powers
 but fall like leaves before the Northen winde
 huge heapes of vs lye dead in every place
 and wee vnles yo^u healpe shall all bee slaine

All Crye:/ Healpe, healpe Canutus healpe and sccor vs.

Canutus:/ Good Cuntrymen Canut9 will not see yo^u wrongd
 for yet the spirrit of my father Swaine
 runes in this vaines, w^{ch} I will sheed
 even drope by drope eare I will see yo^u harmd
 goe in good frinde and pacifie yo^r selves
 be Confident in mee, and yf I live
 I plant yo^u in yo^r former quiet states
 Swetho looke to them they shalbee yo^r Care

130

Exeunt Swetho wth the poore Daines:/

Now lord9 lett not this sodaine rumor daunte
 yo^r manly hartes though Edmond bee soe stronge
 wee are as stronge, and stronger farr then hee
 then tell mee shall wee now assayle him
 saye Vskataulf what is to bee donñe

140

Vskataulf:/ You may my Lord, yet bee remembred now
 against what nacōn yo^u are bound to warr
 a generacōn like the [Ch.s.. I...s] Chosen Iewes
 stoborne vnwildye feirce and wild to tame
 skorninge to bee Compeld [ag.s.] against their wills
 abhoreinge servitude as haveinge felt

the over lodinge burden of the same
 > Edricus Indeed my Cuntrymen are faccous 150
 > and must bee rayned wth a markinge stall
 >Curbe them my Lord and brydle but theire wills
 >nd yoⁿ shall find them mild and tractable
 > Yf that you vse them as yo^r father did
 they dare not, nay they will not look awrye
 but serve you as your slaves by Conquest due
 But yf you lay the teame vppon theire neckes
 and lett them have but any scope to ruine
 whye then bee sure, they'l gad as theyweare [gald] glad
 and neither know themselves nor yet yo^r grace 160
 for Lynitie doth Cause them to rebell
 Cause they are Ignorant of lyveinge well:/

124-6 Marked for omission and crossed off. 125 *Northen*] sic. 128 *scor*] sic
 138 *daunte*] there are three minims only between *a* and *t*, but a small blot of greyer ink over the
t may indicate an attempt to add a minim. 144 *against*] *n* altered from beginning of *s*
 145 The deleted words are partly illegible, but so far as can be seen the reading does not
 appear to have been varied. 146 *vnwildye*] sic. 147 *ag. s.*] the reading was altered
 before being deleted: perhaps *again* with *i* altered to *s* 150 *faccous*] sic. 158 *any*] *n*
 altered from *m* 159 *they'l*] '*l* added in different ink, probably by another hand.
theyweare] *y* probably inserted. *gald*] deleted and *glad* added by the hand that added '*l*
 to *they* The alteration, which seems to be in the same ink as the deletion of the head-title on
 fol. 96^a and of l. 41, is of course erroneous.

and doth abuse his gracious sufferance
bace vild insinuatinge Sicophant
Degenerat bastard falcely bred
foule mother killinge *Viper* traytor slave
the scume of vices all the ill that may bee.
Whoe would excite the kinge to Tyranie

• against his Cuntrymen but onely hee

170

I am a Daine renowned Soueraigne

yo^u have experience of my loyaltie

and that my Councell is not mercinary

yf I weare wise enough to give advice

You should not prove a tyrant but a kinge

A Tyrant is abhord of god and man

when as a kinge loved and honored

accomptest thou Edricus the Saxons fooles

or rather hardy wisie and valallowrous

theire names discover what theire natures are

180

more hard then stones and yet not stones indeed

In [ffyght] fight more then stones detesting flight

in peace as soft as waxe wise provident

witnes the manye Combat^e they have fought

Denmarke o^r Cuntryes losse by them and theires

wth manie other witnesses of worth

how often they have driven vs to o^r shiftes

and made vs take the sea for our defence

when wee in number have bin three to one

Oh yo^u deceave yo^r self and eke the kinge

190

in wishinge him soe much against himself(
 recall the former perrills wee have past <
 whose deere boughte tymes are freshly yet in minde <
 The tyranny yo^r father *Swanus* vsed
 in tythinge peopele, killinge 9 of 10
 what did ensue, whie lose of manye holde
 bloodshed and warr, rebellion, sword, and fyer:/

174 *enough*] three minims between *e* and *o* 175 *You*] *Y* altered from *s* 179 *wisie*] sic.
vallowrous] *v* probably altered from *w* 182 *In*] *I* altered from *i* 185 *and*] above
a is apparently the beginning of *l* or *t* 187-9 Marked for omission and crossed off.
 187 *shiftes*] possibly an error for *shippes* 189 *number*] the *n* has three minims. 190 *kinge*]
i blotted, perhaps altered. 194 *tyranny*] three minims between *a* and *y* 196 *ensue*]
 first *e* inserted.

for they are Englishmen, easye to rule
 wth lynitie, soe they bee vsed like men
 patient of right, impatient of wronge
 brookeinge noe tyranie in anie sorte,
 But hateinge and revengeinge yt wth death,
 therefore I Counsell yo^u, yf yt might stand
 to wine theire hartes, not by severytie
 but by your favo^r love and lynitie

200

Canut9:/ Good Vskataulf I alowe yo^r speech
 and prayse yo^r Counsell by my owne Consent
 I will indevo^r to suppressse my rage
 and quench the burninge Choller of my harte
 w^{ch} sometymes soe inflames my inward ptes
 as I fall out wth my best loved frind^e
 I will therefore soe moderate my self
 as Englishmen shall thinke mee English borne
 I wilbee mild and gentle to my foes
 yf gentlenes Cann winn theire stoborne hartes
 But lett vs hence my Lorde by this the Earle
 expecte vs at Southampton theire wele rest
 till we Consult yf peace or warr bee best} Exeunt omnes
 Leofricke pulls Turkillus by the sleeve,
 as hee is goeing and stayes him: /

210

220

- > Leofricke:/ A word my lord
 >Turkillus:/ Soe yo^u vse no bloes:/
 L)eofricke:/ I thinke yo^u noble, vertuous, secret, wise
 > ells would I not have opned my intent
 > w^(c)^h doth soe much Conserne o^r privat good

) to yo^u in privat soe yt is my lord
I oft have noted yo^r discontented gate
w^{ch} measurd by my owne doe well decayre
the mind that rules yo^r body is not pleased
And sence soe sweete a Simphonie appeares: /

230

198 The comma is added in different ink, probably later, as are those in 200-3.
210-3 Marked for omission and crossed off. 217 *wete*] sic.

betwixt o^r bodyes, Discontent I Iudge
 o^r minde disturbance to bee onely one
 Causd from the sadd neglect of theis strange Daies
 Oh what a greefe is yt to noble bloodē
 to see each bace borne grome promoted vppe
 each dunghill brat arreard to dignitie
 each flatterer esteemed vertious
 When the true noble vertious gentlemen
 are scornd disgraced and held in obliqui[e]
 Bace Edricus a traytor to his kinge
 is held in hono^r, wee twoe trustye subiectē
 are feard, suspected and have libertye
 only to live, yet not in libertye
 for what is yt but prisonment or worse
 when as o^r Children blood of o^r owne blood
 are kept Close prisoners pledges for o^r faithes
 King Edmond whose indeed is o^r trew kinge
 for good regard of merrit and desarte
 for hono^r fame and true nobilitye
 ys rightly termd mirrour of maiestie
 Canutus is a prudent noble prince
 and l^yves to heare him Cald soe too too much
 But I <will> tell yoⁿ this as longe as wee
 take pte against o^r Soueraigne *Ironsides*
 wee are but trayto^{rs} therefore —

Turkillus:/ Stay noble Chester for I spie yo^r drift <
 to heape as manie tytles on yo^r head <
 as yoⁿ have pourd on mine, weare but yo^r d<ue

yet to Cutt off such troytinge theeves of tyme <

I saye Amen to yo^r intencōn

260

w^{ch} is to leave Canutus and his Courte

and fly to Edmond or true lawfull kinge

But least yo^u should suspect my secresie

by beinge woone soe soone to yo^r Device :/

231 The comma is evidently an error, perhaps it was intended to follow *Discontent*
237 *esteemed*] *m* has two minims only. 237, 238 *vertious*] sic. 246 *pledges*] *g*
altered from *d* 247-50 Marked for omission and crossed off. 261 *Courte*] *r* blotted,
perhaps altered. 264 *soone*] *oo* either altered or touched up.

I here assure yo^u that this very plott
 hath longe bine hameringe in my trobled braine
 and had not you prevented my intent
 I should eare longe have moved yo^u heerein
 but what shall then become of our Two boyes
 whoe are our pledges they shall surely dye

270

Leofricke:/ Tutt tis noe matter yf they dye they dye
 they Cannot suffer in a better tyme
 nor for a better Cause theire Cuntrys good
 wee gave them life for vs they sheed their blood
 Turkullus:/ Hee that sent them Can send vs more againe
 then lett vs hence delaye of tyme is vaine } Exeunt

Enter Edricus solus :/

Edricus./ What shall I thinke of him that means to begg
 and Canne thvs finely live vppon his witt
 I was as meane as anie bace ly borne
 fye saye not soe yt will discreditt thee
 Tut noe man heeres mee I but thinke not soe
 for yt will make thie peacockes plumes fall downe
 yf one such abiect thought posse thie mind
 tis strange to see how I am favored
 posses thy duke dome and Canutus grace
 and am the Cheife of all his Counsellours
 when as my betters are exild the Courte
 being discountenancd and out of grace
 They Cannot so desemble as I Can
 Cloake, Cosen, Cogge and flatter wth the kinge
 Crouch and seeme Courtious promise and protest
 saye much doe naught in all thinges vse decept
 tell troth to noe man Carry tailes abroad
 whisper Close secretē in the giddyē ayre
 bee a newes monger feed the kinge wth soothes

280

290

please all mens humors wth humilitie
 w^{ch} hee must doe that is a Courtier
 and minde to keepe in favor wth the kinge
 > hee that had hard my story from the eand 300
 > how manie treasons I have practised
 > how manie vild thinges I have brought to passe
 > and what great wonders have bin Compassed
 > by this deepe reachinge pate would thincke I wis
 > I had bine bound apprentice to deceit
 and from my bearth daye studied villanie
 I vnderstand prince Edmondē vppe in armes
 layes hold vppon occacōns sluggie locke
 And whilst Canutus here securely sleepes
 hee wines wth ease what wee wth paine have gott 310
 Mas yf hee doe and fortune favo^r him
 I will soe woorke as Ile bee in his grace
 and keepe my liveinge and my self vnhurte
 But yf Canutus Chaunce to gaine a gaine
 then I am his for I Can glose wth all

277 *Act I, Scene ii.* 280 *bace ly]* sic, cf. 2000. 284 *posse]* sic, for *possesse*
 286 *duke dome]* sic. 290 *Cannot]* first minim of *nn* inserted. 292 Marked for omission
 and crossed off. *seeme]* *m* possibly *nc* 300 Marked for omission and crossed off.
 309 *securely]* *s* altered perhaps from beginning of *C*

And yet indeed to saye the very troth
 rather of both I love Canutus best
 for Edmond's father first did raise mee vppe
 and from a Plowmans soñe promoted mee
 to be a duke for all my villanie

320

and soe as often as I looke on him
 I must remember what hee did for mee
 and whence I did decend, and what I am
 w^{ch} thoughtes abace my state most abieclly
 Therefore I hate him, and desire his death
 and will procure his end in what I cann
 But for Canutus hee doth honor mee
 becavse hee knowes not whence I did dissend
 Therefore of the Two I love Canutus best
 yet I Can play an *Ambodexters* parte

330

and sweare I love, yet hate him wth my harte Exit

Enter Edmond and Alfricke the
 generall vnder the kinge :/

Edmond But are ye sure my Lo: that all is fitt
 are all my souldiers furnished for this warr
 what have they meate and drinke to their Content
 doe not the Capitaines pince them of their paye

Alfricke Assure yo^r Ma^{tie} my Care is such
 as I doe daylie ouersee them all
 and Cause the meanest souldier to bee searved
 and have his fill of meate and drinke that's good
 wth out Controulment Checke or menaces
 for th'only meanes to mare a souldiers fight
 pinch him of meate and paye and pinch his might

340

Edmond Then doe yee well for I am of this minde
 hee that for private bace Comodetie
 will starve his souldiers or keepe backe their paye

hee that to decke himself in gorgious tire <
 will see his men goe naked, dye for Cold <
 ys a plaine Cutthroat to the Coñonwealth < 350
 A worthie Capitaine seeinge a tall souldier <
 march barefoote haultinge pluckt off his **owne** showes <
 and gave them to the souldier, sayinge fellow
 when I want shooes, then give mee theis againe
 But Capitaines now a daies
 plucke offe their souldiers shooes naye sell their lives
 to make them ritch and gallant to the eie { Enter Turkullus an<
 but soft what are yon Twoe strangers { Leofricke
 Turkullus:/ Wee are rebellious traytors to yo^r grace: { *they kneell*
 borne Englishmen but strangers to o^r selves 360
 whoe in remorse of Consience knowinge well

316 *troth*] *o* altered possibly from *v* 321-3 Marked for omission and crossed off.
 324 *abieclly*] sic. 332 *Act I, Scene iii.* *Enter*] *n* altered from beginning of *t*
 350 *Coñonwealth*] beginning of *w* altered. 352 *owne*] interlined in another hand.

wee have in takeinge pte wth Danish Canutus
 deserved, death come of our owne free wills
 either to suffor for o^r hainous factes
 or elce imbrace o^r pardons w^{ch} we crave
 even as hereafter wee shall merritt yt

Edmond Rise vppe Turkullus, Leofricke arise
 give mee yo^r hand^s and wth yo^r handes your hartes
 I more esteme the life of one Trew subiect
 then the distruction of a Thowsand foes 370
 One sheepe that was lost I more reioyce to find
 then Twenty other w^{ch} I never mist
 A frinde of whose retorne I stood in doubt
 is more welcom to mee then ffortie other
 Oh that when Strangers cannot Conquer vs
 wee should Conspire wth them against our selves
 England yf ever warr thy face doth spoyle
 thancke not thy outward foe but inward frind
 for thou shalt never pishe tell that daye
 when thie right hand shall make thie harte awaye 380
 goe in brave lord^s your sight doth mee more ioye

Act 2^{dus} then *Agamemnon* when hee Conqverd Troye *Exeunt eōs*

The Druñe and Trumpetts sound
 Enter wth a banquet: Then Enter
 Canutus South: Arch: Bish: Vskataulf
 and Swetho Edricus: /

Canutus: My lord My lo: you are to bountifull
 half this expence would well have satisfied
 the homely stomaches of our souldiers
 and entertaind our self right royally 390
 where is your Daughter

South: Shee shall give attendance, to waight vppon
 your grace at diner tyme

Canutus: Nay good my lord vnlesse yo^u give her leaue
to sitt at board and finde mee Table talke

) I shall not thincke my self awelco^me gueste

)uth: May I Crave pardon of your Ma^{tie}
my daughter beinge younge in yeares and maners
is far vnfitt to keepe a *Queenes* estate

Canutus: I faith my lo: you are to scrupulous
to vnadvised to fearefull wth out Cavse
to stand vppon such nice excuses
I love to see a Table furnished
and sure I will not sitt tell shee Comes in

South: Egina daughter Come away sweete gerle. {Enter Egina
the kinge will have thee dine wth him to daye
be not to coye, nor yet to flixable.
yf chaunce hee proffer anie Curtesie
behave your self in honorable sorte

400

363 The comma has been erroneously added before instead of after *death* 364 *suffor*] sic, by anticipation; the first *f* altered. 368 *wth*] interlined. 377-80 Marked for omission and crossed off. 382 *eōs*] sic, for *ōēs* (= *omnes*). 383 *Act II, Scene i.* 384 *wth*] interlined in another hand. 396 *awelco^me*] sic. 407 *coye*] *o* altered.

and answer him wth modestie and mirth

A meanes may bee to make thee *Queene*

411

Canutus: What is yo^r daughter come, welcome faire ladye
 your presence is as welcom as the daye
 after A longe and weary watchfull night
 sitt downe faire ladie sitt downe noble lord
 fill mee a Cuppe of wine heeres to the health
 of Ironside and all his followers
 whoe will pledge me

Egina:/ Pardon your hand maid and Egina will

Canutus Wilt pledge me to the health of Ironside
 what reason moues you soe to fancy him

420

Egina/ The good regard I beare your 'Maiestie
 for should hee die before theis warrs were done
 and you have ffinist strife through victory
 so^me other CADMVS bird worse then him self
 might happe to broch so^me new Co^motion
 and troble all the state wth mutinies
 where yf hee lives tell you have Conquerd him
 none after him dares renovate the warres

Canutus:/ Sweetely and wisely answerd noble Queene
 for by that name yf heaven and thou Consente
 by Suⁿe sett all the Campe shall wish thee health
 my lord what saye you to this mocōn

430

South: As yt shall pleas your Royall Ma^{tie}
 dispose of mee and what soere is mine

Canutus:/ Madam pleaseth yt you to bee A Queene

Egina/ What my dread Sou'aigne, and my father willes
 I dare not nay I will not Contradict

Canutus: Then for a manuell seale receive this kisse {he kesseth h\

the Cheife dumbe vtterer of the hartes intente	<	440
and noble father, now Ile Call you soe	<	
yf this rash seemeinge match doe like you well	<	
deliver mee possion presently	<	
of this faire ladie, your beloved child	<	
and wee will straigh to church and Celebrate	<	
the duties w ^{ch} belonge to Marriadges	<	
Bishope of Caunterbury you will marie vs	<	
w th out the sibert askeinge will ye not		
Arch: B: / I am prepaired yf every pte bee pleased		
Canutus: / ffaith I am pleased		450
Arch: B: / But what saye you		
Egina: / I saye a Woemans silence is Consente		
Canutus: / Whie heers a match ex tempore small adoe		
a boutte a waightie matter, soñe perhapes		
would have Consumed milions to effect		
what I by soñe spentte breath have Compassed		

414 *longe and*] interlined. 424 *finist*] sic, *ff* altered from *st* 431 *heaven*] *n* added later. 441-4 Marked for omission and crossed off. 443 *possion*] sic. 445 *straigh*] sic. 448 *sibert*] sic. 452 *silence*] *l* altered from a minim and first *e* from beginning of *l* 453 *Whie*] *W* is of a form imitated from black-letter type.

Lordes lett vs in for I intend to bee
 espoused to night wth all solemnitie
 after our mariadge wee doe meane to goe
 to meete in open feild our open foe { Exeunt omnes

460

Enter Edricke a poore man
 his wife and Stich :/

Edricke:/ Naye Stich and you once see my soñe youle sweare hee is
 a bouncer, all in silkes and gold vengable rich

Stich:/ How saye you that

Wife:/ I Cann tell you, yo^u may blesse the daye that euer yo^u
 hapt in to his service, hee is a mann every haire bredth—
 a most vilde brave man yfaith :/

Stich:/ Then we shalbe well mett for I love bravery and
 clenlines out of all crye and indeed of all thinges I
 cannot brooke an ilfavord face hange him that wante
 a good face

470

Edricke:/ yo^u are of my minde we may saye aPoxe of all good
 faces and never hvrte our owne

Stich:/ Wee may indeede god be praysd but what howse is this
 how far off are wee from Southampton :/

Wife:/ whie wee are in the Towne th kinge Canutus lies heere
 now, and my sonne is heere and all o^r neighbores wilbee heere
 to daye, at the bridall for almesse } Enter Edricus

Edricus:/ Whoe soe desires to mount a loftie pitch
 must beare himself against the stoborne winde
 and shuñe bace Common popularitie :/

480

Stich./ whoe is this :

wife:/ Oh tis my soñe, make yee handsome, tie yo^r garters for shame
 wipe yo^r shooes, mend yo^r shirtband :/

Edricke:/ Oh lett mee goe to him first, God save yee sonne

Edricus:/ A pox apou him tis the knave my father
 good fellow hast thou anie suite to vs

deliver vppe thy Supplicacōn

Edr)icke:/ Oh Sr yee knowe mee well enough I am goodman Edricke

490

> your father

u)s: My father grout heade ser knave I saye yo^u lye

> you horesoñe Cuckold yo^u bace vacabond yo^u slave
yo^u mungrell peasant doulte and foole, canst thou not knowe
a Duke from coñon men

Wife:/ By my troth I learnd him all theis names to call his father
when hee was a child, and see yf hee can forgett them yet
Oh hee is a wise man, for in faith my husband is none
of his father, for indeede a souldier begott him of mee
as I went once to a faire, But sonne knowe yee mee

500

Edricus:/ Thee old hagge, witch, queane slutt drab, whore
and theefe, how should I know the blacke Egiptian :/

461 *Act II, Scene ii.* 462 *wife*] *w* altered perhaps from beginning of *s* 464 *bouncer*] *r* altered from *s* *silkes*] *l* altered from a minim. *vengable*] *n* altered perhaps from beginning of *g* 469 *Then*] *T* altered probably from *E* 473 *aPoxe*] sic, *P* altered from *p* or perhaps *x* (there was originally a space after *a*). 477 *th*] sic. 478 *wilbee*] *i* altered from *e* 488 *suite*] perhaps *siute* (cf. 1241 and 1602). 499 *mee*] *m* altered. 501 *drab*] *d* blotted, perhaps altered.

Wife: / This is his old trickes husband, Come, Come, soñe I am sure, yee know (m
 Edricus: / I yf not to well, wherefore comes yon sheepbiter, yo^u sir knave
you are my brother are yee not I praye

Stich: / Noe sir and yt like ye

Edricus: / It likes mee very well, what is yo^r name,
wherefor Came ye heather :

Wife: / His name is *Stich* my sonne, wee Came wth him
to healpe him to your service

510

Edricus: / You [ãswer] answer for him gossippe, wantes hee tongue

Stich: / Noe ser, I have tongve enough yf that bee good { *hee shewes his*

Edricus: / What Can yee doe

{ *tongue*

Stich: / Anie thinge, dresse a horse, scoure a Chamber pott, goe to
plowe, Thrash, Dicke, and indeed what not :/

Edricus: / Canst make cleane shooes

Stich: / Whoe I. yt is pte of my occupacõn, yo^u wine my harte.

I am a Cobler for neede I Can peice a shooe as well as the best
wipe a shooe looke yo^u heere elce give mee your foote

Edricus: / Staye not soe hastie

520

wee that by slie devices meane to mounte
 and creepe into opinion by decepte
 must not of all thinges have a scholler knowe
 o^r practices, wee must supprese good witts
 and keepe them vnder, wee must favo^r fooles
 And wth promotions winn their shallow pates

A Redie witt would quickly winde vs out
 and prie into o^r secrett trecharies
 and wade as deepe in pollecy as wee
 But such loose braind windy headed slaves
 such blockheades doltes, fooles, dunces, idiotte
 such loggerheaded rogues are best for vs
 for wee may worke their wills to what wee will

530

and winn theire hartes wth gold to anie thinge
 Come hether Stich this villiane and this quean(e
 that brought thee heither Clame an entrest (
 in my nobilitie, when as god knowes (
 my noble father died longe sence in warres (
 beinge duke of Mercia then as I am now
 therefore, but first to Cutt of longe delays
 I entertane the for my Chamberlaine
 and as thou shalt prove secret, trustie, trew
 I will reward thee wth some higher place
 but first to trye thee fetch the Constable
 yet staye a while they would suspect the trewth
 Ile have thee when thou seest mee gon awaye
 beate theis Two beggers hence and teach them how
 they shall heereafter Chose a meaner sonne
 wilt thou bee trvsty, wilt thou Cudgell them :

540

504 *sheepbiter*] second *e* altered from *i* 505 *brother*] *r* altered possibly from *o*
 511 *answer*] interlined above *ãswer* altered (*ã* from *a*) and deleted. 512 *tongve*] *v* altered
 from *e* 515 *Dicke*] sic. 519 *wipe*] *i* altered from *p* 523 *scholler*] *h* altered from *o*
 527-33 Marked for omission and crossed off. Opposite 527 there is added in different ink
 a mark like *A* which may be meant for a star. 528 *trecharies*] sic. 535 *villiane*] sic.
 542 *as*] interlined.

Stich: Never take Care for that Ile beate them they were neaver FOL. 103^b
 better beaten sence they weare borne 55^r

Edricus:/ I doe soe, Stich I preethee beate them well
 harke yee? and see them whipt out of the Towne
 and yf they speake or prattle Cvrse or Rave
 for every woord give them Tenn blowes sweete slave } *exit*

Edricke:/ Oh sonne, sonne, staye

Stich: Sonne Sonne wth a pestelence, Yo^u are much like to bee his
 father and yo^u his mother yo^u brought mee hether

Edricke:/ I

Stich:/ And I must beate yo^u hence, and yf yo^u desire 56^o
 to [knw] knowe whie yo^u must hereafter leare to finde
 ameaner mann for yo^r sonne then my lord is { *hee beates*
 Wife:/ Hee is my sonne. Oh: Oh: Oh good Stich hold thie hand { *them about*
 Enter Canutus [South:] ArchB: Edricus { *the stage*
 Vskataulf Swetho: { *Exeunt*

Canutus: Then are they gon, tis Certaine they are fled
 Turkullus and Leofricke whoe would have thought yt
 did not I vse them well, gave them good woordes
 Rewarded theire Indevors, and besides
 graced them as much as anie parson heere 57^o

Edricus: Yo^u vsd them but to well and lett mee saye
 your linitie did Cause them runne a waye

Canutus: Have wee not pledges of their loyaltie

Edricus:/ yee haue my lord

Canutus: Their eldest sonnes I thincke

Edricus: Trew but they know yo^u are to mercifull

Canutus: They are deceyved, for sence they have disturbd
 the settelled sollace of our marriadge daye
 and daunted o^r determind meriment^e
 wth Causeles flight, to plague their fathers fact 58^o
 Ile laye the treason on their Childrens backe

) and make their guiltles shoulders beare the burthen
). fetch mee the Pledges swetho, and wth them
) some bloody varlett from the *Danish* hoast
) and lett him bringe an axe, a blocke & knife
) alonge wth him but doe yt quickly *Sweth:* } Exet Swetho :/
 and Come againe as fast

Edricus: What doth your grace intend to doe wth them

Canutus Ile Cutt their hande and noses offe

Edricus: Your Iudgment doth not far enough extend

590

vnto the hight of runawaies desarte

death is to light a punishment for trayto^{rs}

and losse of hande and nose is [worse] lesse then death

Vskata: If an honest mann had said soe I would
 have liked yt never the woorse

554 *Rave*] *R* apparently altered from *r* 555 *slave*] *l* blotted, perhaps altered. 561
leare] sic. 562 *ameaner*] sic. 564 *Act II, Scene iii.* *South:*] deleted later.
 581 *backe*] *c* altered from beginning of *k* 582 Marked for omission. 583 *swetho*] sic.
 585 *&*] altered from *a* 586 *Exet*] sic. 593 *lesse*] interlined above *worse* deleted.
 594 *had*] *d* altered from *id* 595 *woorse*] first *o* altered probably from *r*

Canutus:/ This punishment is worse then lose of life
for yt is a stingeinge Corsive to theire sovles
as often as they doe behold them selves
lopt and bereft of those Two ornamentes
w^{ch} nessessary vse doth daily Crave

FOL. 104^a

600

Againe yt giveth others daily cavse
to thinke how trato^{rs} should bee handled
wheras the memory of present death
is quicly buried in oblivion

[doeinge noe good but whilst yt is in doeinge]

A trato^r maye be likened to a tree

w^{ch} beinge shred and topt when yt is greene
doth for one twigge w^{ch} from the same was cutt
yeald Twenty armes yea twenty armes for one
but beinge hackt and mangled wth an Axe

610

the Roote straight dies and [peecemele] peacemeale rot^y awaye

Even soe of trayto^{rs} Cut mee off theire heades
still moore out of the self same stocke will sprout
but plague them wth the losse of nedfull members
as Eies nose, hand^e, eares, feete or anie such
Oh theis are Cuttinge Cardes vnto theire soules

Eare marke to know a tratorous vilane by
even as a brand is to discrie a theefe
these desperate persons for examples sake
these Ruffaines theis aldaringe lustie bloodes
these Courte appendixes these madcape laddes
these nothinge fearinge hotspures that attend
o^r Royall Courte tell them of hanginge Cheare <
theile saye yt is a tricke or two a boue ground <
tell them of quarteringe or the headinge Axe <
theile sweare beheadinge is a gallant death <
and hee is a dastard that doth feare to die <
But saie to them, yo^u shalbee branded
or yo^r hand^y Cutt offe or yo^u nostrilles slitt

620

Then shallow feare makes their quirering tongues
 to speake abruptly, rather lett vs dye
 then wee should suffer this vild Ignomie
 A valliant harte esteemeth light of death
 but honorable mindes are Ielious
 of honorable names, then to bee mark(ed)

630

602 *handled*] *n* altered from the beginning of *d*
 different ink. 604 *quicly*] *y* altered from the beginning of *l*
 perhaps from *o* 609 *armes yea*] *r* altered from *m*
peacemeale] interlined above a deletion, apparently *peecemele* but altered.
 sic. 620 *Ruffaines*] sic. 623 *Cheare*] last letter doubtful. 629 *yo^u*] sic. 630
quireringe] sic. 632 *Ignomie*] sic.

w^{ch} robbs them of their honors likewise robbs
 their hartes of Ioye, and like to irkesome owles
 they wilbee bashfull to bee seene a broad

Vskataulf:/ Alas poore soules yt was against their willes
 that their hardharted fathers broake the league

640

Edricus:/ Alas poore soules yt is against their willes
 that they must loose their noses and their hand

m: Grad: Stuf: Enter Swetho the Two Pledges
 and Stich wth an Axe:/

Canutus:/ Come on Gentlemen Cause I have found
 your fathers trvstie as they promised
 vnto my father and to mee
 Therefore I meane to make yo^u worthie men
 such as the world shall afterward reporte
 did suffer tormenty for their Cuntries good

650

Come on I saye prepaire yo^r visadges
 to beare the tokens of eternitie
 prepaire yo^r noses, bid yo^r hande adue
 because your sires have proved themselves soe trew

i Pledge:/ Rather then this Oh kill vs presently
 their beinge gone wee doe abhore o^r lives
 and haveinge their wee loth to live accvrst
 accompted trato^{rs} to o^r native soyle
 Suffer vs first to trye o^r striplinge force
 wth anye Giant of your [*Ciclo*] Ciclopes Sise
 and lett o^r armes fight once before o^r deathes
 to reake their mallice on their maisters foes
 soe lett vs perishe like to Gentelemen
 like to our selves and like to Englishmen.

660

Canutus:/ Looke how Cold water Cast on burnige Coles
 doth make the fier more fervently to flame
 Even so your teares doth adde vnto my rage

and makes yt hotter when yt gines to Coole
 > tis not my pleasure you should suffer death
 > Causē I beleve twould ease your fathers greefes 670
 > tis not my pleasure you should trye yo^r powers
 > so I should give yo^u honnors vndeseved
 > and you perchaunce might soe reedeme yo^r selves
 But yo^u shall see o^r Iudment^y straight performed
 doe execucōn on them presently
 Ile teach yo^r fathers yf they doe not knowe
 what tis to violate a lawfull othe
 I teach them what yt is to playe wth kinges
 presuminge on their mercy, Come I saye
 what trifle yee delaye noe more the tyme 680
 for yo^u must suffer for yo^r fathers Cryme
 2 Pledge:/ What ser must you Cutt offe my handes
 Stich:/ I and yo^r noses too, twere pittie in faith to marr two such faces

641 *Edricus*:] perhaps added later, though the ink seems the same. 653 yo^r noses]
 first o blotted, perhaps altered. 672 vndeseved] sic. 673 reedeme] sic. 674
Iudment^y] sic. 678 *I*] sic, for *Ile*

Boyes will yoⁿ Change beards wth mee

i Pledge:/ You shall not touch my nose wth those bace handȝ
by heaven Ile soñer Cutt yt offe myself

Stich:/ You will thinke A worse paire then theis agood paire ere nig^t
how theile looke when their noses bee offe, every one wil^l
take them for ffrenchmen

Canutus: dispatch I saie I must not staye soe longe
the more you delaye the tyme the worse you speede

690

i Pledge:/ Give mee the Axe Ile quickly execute
this direfull Iudgment on my guiltles handes

Stich:/ wth all my harte you save mee a labor

Canutus:/ Staye vnadvised vilaine hold thy hand
or I will hacke the peacemeale wth thy Axe
whie art thou madd to give thie enemie
an instrument to Kill thie self and mee
Cutt offe his hande first, then deliver yt him

Hee cutts offe one hande

700

Soe Cutt offe th'other.

Hee Cutts offe the other hande

now ser fight yo^r fill

i Pledge:/ Lett theis my stumpes Crave vengeance at thie hande
thou Iudge of Iudges and thou kinge of kinges

Canutus: Cutt off his nose then lett him praye againe
perchance his prayeing metigates his paine

Hee Cutts off his Nose

i Pledge: Powre thie vengeance on this bloody daine
and lett him die some vnherd monstrous death

710

Canutus: Make quick dispatch to execut the other
I am sure you will not now bee pardoned

2•Pledge• Not I thou Murtheringe stonie hated daine
I am resolved to suffer this and more
to doe my ffather or my Cuntry good

they gave mee life for them Ile shed my blood <
 Hee Cutty his hande and Nose <
 i Pledge: Now thou hast spitt thie venome bloody kinge <
 wee doe retone defiance in thie face <
 Canutus: Sers temper well yo^r tongues and bee advse(d 720
 yf not Ile Cutt them shorter by an Inch
 remember that yo^u both have lost yo^r hande
 becavse your fathers did abuse theire tongues
 in periurye, goe quickly away
 and tell your tratrous fathes what I say
 2 Pledge: Wee goe but to thie Cost proud Danish Canute
 throughout this Ile thie tiranie to brute
 i Pledge Wee goe thie Crewell butchery to Ringe
 oh England never trust a forraine kinge } Exit Pledes
 Edricus: Ha. Ha. Ha. 730
 Canutus: Whie laughest thou Edricus
 Edricus: I Cannot chuse to see the villaines rave
 Ent Mess nger H Gi(bs)on.

687 *agood*] sic. 695 *vilaine*] *a* altered from the beginning of *l* 698 *Kill*] *K*
 altered perhaps from the beginning of *g* 713 *hated*] sic. 719 *retone*] sic. 720 *advse*]
 sic. 724 *in periurye*] written over an erasure. 725 *fathes*] sic. 729 *Pledes*] sic.
 733 *Mess nger*] sic.

h): And I must needes laugh to beare my M^r Companie

FOL. 105^b

H. Gibs: *Enter a messenger runinge*

Canutus: What newes wth thee

Messenger: Renownd Canutus thy forces in the North
w^{ch} thou didst send gainst Edmond Ironside
are Cleene disperst and peecemeale overthrowne
by him, as theis letters signifie

740

Canutus reades and then sayeth

Canutus: Tis wonderfull what Twenty Thowsand slaine
of Coñon souldiers this vnwelcome newes
nipes like a hory frost our springeinge hopes
and makes my fearefull souldiers hange theire headē

Come hether *Edricus* voyd the Companie
that I and you may talke in secresie } Exeunt omnes

Ah Edricus what had I best to doe
to race out this dishonorable blott
out of the brasse leaved booke of liveinge fame

750

shall yt be said heereafter when Report
shall Celebrate my noble fathers actes
that Canutus did lose, what noble Swanus gott
shall yt be said that Edmond Ironside
vnfrinded poore forsaken desolate
did ouerthrowe the power of mightie Canutus
whose wealth was great, frindes more, but forces most
Never sence Edmond was of force to beare

a massey helmet and a [Cv] Curtlaxe
Could I retorne a victor from the feild

760

vnlesse as I remember thou betraydst
the gallant striplinge once into o^r handys
then had not vallour hewed him throw o^r troopes
that daye had made an end of all o^r greefes

>
>

But now what now, oh tell mee yf thou knowest

> how shall I extrIBUTE my stocke and name
 > that after age may not reporte my shame
 Ed)ricus: dispaire not noble kinge tyme Comes in tyme
 know yee not tis a deede of pollecy
 in fickell Chaunce to Crosse yo^r mightienesse

770

for elce inTyme yo^u might dismounte the Queene
 and throw her headlonge from her rowlinge stone
 and take her [whele] whirlinge wheele into your hand
 I tell yo^r grace Chaunce ever envies wise men
 and favors fooles promotinge them aloft
 But as for this fleaspott of dishonor
 the greatest monarches have indured more
 even blinckeing Phillipis sonne and manie more <

734 The line evidently belongs to Stich. 740 *signifie*] *ig* altered from *n* 742 *Canutus*] *C* altered from *D* 744 *like*] *k* altered from a minim. 758 *sence*] *s* perhaps altered.
 759 *Cv*] there is one minim after *v* 766 *extrIBUTE*] sic. 771 *inTyme*] the scribe first wrote four minims for *in* and then formed *T* over the fourth. 775 *favors*] *a* altered perhaps from beginning of *v*

whose repiticiōn weare needles to recyte
 Canutus: I preethee flatter still, on, on, what more
 speake wee of fortune honest Sicophante
 Chaunce favoreth not a foole in favoringe thee
 thy flatery is gracious in her eye
 Come hether Edricus oh strange miracle
 see yoⁿ not in the heavens prodigious signes
 looke how the Sunne lookes paille the moone shines red
 The starres appeare in the pturbed heven
 like little Comette and not Twelve a Clocke
 what is the Cavse then that the starres are seene

780

Edricus:/ I see them · well my lord: yett knowe noe cause
 vnles yet shewes the fall of *Ironsides*

790

Canutus:/ Shurely yt doth: looke now they all are gonne
 tis night, tis darke, beware ye stumble not
 lend mee yo^r hand, but first goe fetch a torch } Exit *Edricus*
 to light mee to my tente. make hast I praye
 hees gonne to fetch a torch to light the daye } Enter *Edricus*

Edricus: My lord the mistie vapors weare soe thicke
 they almost quencht the torch

Canutus:/ Trve as all the rest, I say thie witt is thicke
 grose flattery: all sothing Sicophant
 doth blind thie eies and will not lett thee see

800

that others see thou art a flatterer
 Amend, amend thie life learne to speake trewth
 for shame doe not in thie declineinge age
 Children may see thie lies they are so plaine
 Oh whilst yee live from flattery refraine

Edricus:: Yt standes not wth my Zeale and plighted faith
 otherwise to saye then as yo^r hignes saith
 your grace is hable to give all theire due
 to make truth lye and likewise make lies true(

810

Canutus:/ I would Yt laye in mee to make thee true <

but whoe cann Change the Ethiophians hew<

Act 3

Enter at one doore: y^e Arch B: of Caunter< >y<

at th'other y^e Arch B: of Yorke

Caunterb: Whie bendy not the presumptious knee of Yorke

when Canter: speakes: Cannot the Curse

of god and mee the metropolitan

vnder the *Pope* of all *Dominions*

wthin this realme of England Cause thee feare

prowd irreligious prelate know my power

820

stretcheth beyond thie Compasse [ever] even as much

as *Rome* doth mine then quiver when I Curse

and like a Child indeed prostrate thie self

784 *miracle*] *c* inserted. 789 *Cause*] *av* altered from *w* 791 *ye!*] sic. 799 *True*] *v* altered from *e* 802-4 Marked for omission; but apparently something has been left out. 807 *Edricus*::] the name was first written in Italian script, then smudged out and rewritten in English. 808 *hignes*] sic. 809 *hable*] sic. 810 *true*] *r* apparently altered. 812 *Ethiophians*] sic. 813 *Act III, Scene i.* 819 *realme*] first minim of *m* perhaps altered from *e*

before my feete that thy humilitie
may move mee to absolve thie former sinnes
and sett the free from Hells Damnacōn

Yorke: Traytor to god and to thie lawfull kinge
where thou dost blese I Cvrse where Cvrse I blesse
as thou art Bishope my Coñision
stretcheth as farr as thine, and lett me saye
([] vnlese thou leave thy Continulious threatē)
further then mine Noe Canterbury noe
I humble me to God and not to thee
A trayto^r a betrayor of his kinge

830

A rebell a prophane preist a Pharesie

A parrasite, an enimie to peace

A foe to trewth and to Religion

I saye I will not bend myself to him

and such a one arte thou and therefore heere

vnles repentance bend thie stobborne harte

840

I heere pñounce the Curse of god and man

vppon thie soule and soe farwell and [med] mend } *yorke offers* }

Canter: Staye Yorke and heare me speake, thie puffie worde

thie windie threatēs thie raylinge Cvrse light

vppon thie stubborne necke vnles wth speede

thou dost forsake the parte of Ironside

and cleave vnto Canutus, and more submit thie self

to mee thie head and to o^r mother Church

replie not Bishoppe for [th] I seale thie lipēs

wth my Irrivocable bitter Curse

850

yf one vntoward woord slipp from thie tongue

Yorke So heapest thou Cole of fier vppon thie head

) and blessest mee wth Cursing impious preist

) oh lett mee dye whenas I leave my kinge

) A trew borne prince for anie forriner

Canter': Oh I Could eate thee, now my Crossier stafe
 longes to bee peltinge that old hory pate
 my handy doe quake wth rage
 Yorke You are a Champion for the Devell and Canutus
 I flye not from thie Curses but thie strokes } Exet Yorke 860
 Cant' Ile follow thee wth Curses and wth Clubbes } Exit Cant'
 Enter Canuty South: Edricus Vskataulf
 Swetho Harrold at armes and souldiers
 Canuty. Goe to yon Citie w^{ch} wee meane to sacke
 new Troy the state of Edmond Ironside
 Comand a parley at the Cytie gates

826 *the*] sic. 828 *blese*] sic. 831 Three letters apparently have been smudged
 out at the beginning of the line. *Continulious*] six minims (the last two separate) between
t and *l* with a dot above the first or second. 836 *enimie*] final *e* altered from *t*
 841 *pronounce*] *o* altered from a minim. 844 *threates*] *r* altered from *e* *Curses*] *v* perhaps
 altered from *r* 853 *blessest*] last *s* altered. 860 *Exet*] sic. 862 *Act III, Scene ii.*

bid them Chuse whether they will lett vs in

FOL. 107^a

or els wthstand the vtmost of o^r wrath

and bee Consmed to ashes and to Coles

wth flayminge fyre which *Whilom* did distroy

870

their mother Cytie *Quandam* Called Troy

m^r gradell

The Herrold departeth from the kinge to the walls

soundinge his trumpet The Balifes appeare aboute

Herrold:/ Canutus kinge of England prince of daines

greetes yo^u by mee his trustie messenger

Comaundinge yo^u to serve him as your lord

biddinge you waite on him as on yo^r kinge

and you shalbee intreated loveingly

yf not hee is prepaired wth fire and sword

to race yo^r Cytie thus hee sendes you woord :/

880

1 Balife Goe tell yo^r Master thus wee answer him

may

his shippes that proudly ride vppon the Thames

shall anccor on the ground wher hee abides

born by the bloodshed of o^r Carcases

and wee Compeld by thirst to sucke the streame

of this fair river drye, soe that his [mean] men

may dryeshod march over the flottinge deepes

ere wee will lett him enter in theis gattes

or ope o^r lipes to Call him soueraigne

tell him wee are resolved to keepe him backe

890

Tell him wee are noe Traytors but are sworne

to bee Kinge Edmond's leigemen while wee live

and yf hee staye that shall hee soone perceve

Harrold:/ Advise you Balifes what is best to doe

incur[a] not danger wth securetie

Canutus is yo^r kinge then him obaye

and to his gentle Mess[]age saye not naye

Both Blifes:/ Wee are resolved to put *Canutus* backe

he comes not heere his threates are spent in vaine
 Herrold:/ I feare your wills will put yo^r p wittes to paine 900
 and yoⁿ repent yt when yt is to late <
 i Balife:/ You haue yo^r answers soldiers gard the gatte[s] <
 Balifes departe Herrold <
 retvrneth:/

Herrold:/ There answer good my Lord is negative
 full of haughtie Courage and disdainfull pride
 this little peace hath brought theire stomaches vppe
 w^{ch} makes them to disdane yo^r princly mercy
 Canutē:/ And dare they thus refuse my proffred grace
 sett they soe light by my Comaundement 910
 assault, the Cytie batter downe the walls
 skale all the Turretē, rush the gattys assunder
 whie slacke yee souldiers whoe is formost man
 Enter
 H: Gibs: to give a valiant onsett on the Towne:/ } *assayle the walls*

869 *Consmed*] sic. 876 *Comaundinge*] *m* has two minims only. *serve*] *rv* touched up.
 883 *anccor*] sic. *wher*] sic. 884 *bloodshed*] *d* altered. 898 *Both*] added. *Blifes*] sic.
 900 *p wittes*] *p* is blotted, perhaps meant to be deleted. 904 *retvrneth*] *v* probably altered
 from *o* 907 *little*] both *l*'s altered. 911 The comma should follow *Cytie* 914 *assayle*
the walls] added apparently in the same ink as the prompt direction, but the hand is uncertain.

Messeng' Worthie Comaunder of theis Warlike troppes
Edmond yo^r foe is cominge hetherward
wth a Choyce Companie of Armed men
intendinge to supprice yo^u svddenly

Canutus:/ Hee is welcome though I hope vnto [yo^r] his Cost
Wee are beholdinge to his exelence
that hee voutsafe for safegard of his Towne
to yeild himself wthout Compulsion

920

Wee are as forward and as fitt as hee
to give his force an equall Counterbvffe
thoughe hee suppose to take vs vnawares
Now noble Lord^e or neuer shew yo^r might
to put his Men to sword and him to flight

South: Hee that gives backe lett him be slaine
by his next fellow that doth second him
yf English men at first begin to flye
Southampton willingly for them will dye

930

Vska: This day shall manifestly be knowne
how daines have better hartes then Englishmen
and bodies answerable to the same
elce lett them loose their everlastinge fame

Edricus: The daye is yours before the fight begines
great and renowned prince faire England^e kinge
for emulacōn w^{ch} doth somtyme loose
now doth assure you of the victory

940

See yo^u not how the English Lord^s Contend
Whoe should exell in feates of Chivaldry
and Creepe vppe farthest in yo^r highnes grace./
on thother syde, behold brave minded daines
scorninge to ore match in feates of Armes
strive whoe should Compas most by porer or witt
to amplifie your honorable fame

}

> The souldiers are not slothfull in this sturr
 > but redye, forward prompt, and fitt to fight
 > expectinge gladly that delightsome hower 950
 When they shall grapple wth theire enimies
 Then in assurance of this happie Daye
 arme to the fight yt is in wayne to staye

Canutus:/ I doe presume on this to winne the feild
 but all my striveinge is to gett the Crowne } *Sound Druñ w^{thin}*

Alarum Soft what Churlish Druñe doth
 ringe soe rude apeale

Ent: Edm wthin the heareinge of our Armed troopes
 Tis Edmund stricke vppe drumes } Enter Edmund wth souldiers
 and trumpitte sound 960
 Ile not delay my hopes wth anie parley

921 *exelence*] second *e* altered from *o* 923 *Compulsion*] *l* altered from beginning of *s*
 925 *Counterbuffe*] *v* altered from the beginning of *f* 926 *thoughe*] *e* altered from *t*
unawares] *v* altered from *n* or *u* 928 *Men*] *M* altered from beginning of *s* 934 *hartes*] *r* altered from *t*
 942 *exell*] sic. 944 *thother*] sic. 946 *porer*] sic.

Alarum they fight *Edmond* drives *Canutus* FOL. 108^a
offe the stage The drumme soundes a farr offe
Enter attired in blacke sayinge :/

Chorus:/ The fight is hott but *Canutus* is ore Come
and *Edmond* huntens him out from place to place
hee flyes to *Worcester* *Edmond* followes him
the waye is longe and I am waxen faint
I faine [I] would haue you vnderstand the truth
and see the battailes Acted on the stage
But that theire length wilbe to tedious
then in dumbe shewes I will explaine at large
theire fightes theire flightes and *Edmonds* victory
ffor as they stridv to Conquer and to kill
even soe we strive to purchase yo^r good will

970

Alarum Enter *Canutus* flyinge *Edmond* followinge
they fight The Two kinges parley sounde a Retreate
and parte

Chorus *Canutus* is beholdinge to the gracious suñe
whoe greevd to see such heapes of Carcases
lye mangled and besmered in theire gore
made hast and went to rest before his tyme
soe that the kinges for want of light agreed
to [vntell] parte vntell *Aurora* raise the larke
and now tis morninge and they ioyne to fight

980

Alarum Enter *Canutus* at one dore and *Edm*⟨*u*
at the other they fight *Canutus* gives backe an⟨*d*
flies Enter the souldiers of *Edmond* persuing⟨
Canutus and his lord^s *Edricus* takes a dead ⟨*m*
head vppon his sword^s poynt holdinge yt vppe ⟨
Edmonds souldiers they flie Enter *Edmond* a⟨
Cheeringe them vp and makes *Canutus* flie :/⟨

990

Chorus:/ *Edricus* perceavinge *Canutus* to have the worst

and *Edmond* like to trivmph in their fall <
 out of the bowells of a Traytorous harte <
 brought forth this subtell dangerous stratagem <
 whilst the Two Battailes dealt the dole of Death <
 and *Edmond* in the forefront stoutly fought <

with wordy encoraginge his souldiers
 and with rude stroakes discouraginge the Daines
Edricus tooke vppe an English dead mans head
 and stickinge yt vppon his bloody sword
 vnto the vanward of kinge *Edmondes* tropes
 held his dispightfull and most speedy Cource
 tellinge the souldiors *Edmond Ironside*
 was slaine, biddinge the souldiors yeald
 or flye the feild and trust vnto their heeles
 The soldiors in a maze begane to flye
 then *Edmond* heareinge of this stratagem

1000

964 *Act III, Scene iii.* Enter] sc. Chorus. 974 *Conquer*] e altered from r 978
and] n altered from p 992 *them*] there is a dot above the first minim of m 999-1000
 Marked for omission and crossed off. 1003 *vanward*] w altered or touched up.

amongest the Thickest of his enimies
 gave notice that hee lived a conqueror
 his souldiors takeinge harte retorned and fought
 his enimies dispareinge Rune awaye
Edmond returnes in tryumph [on] [in] to the [stage] ffeild
 But *Canutg* returnes in passion and in rage
 what after happens wth your patience
 the entringe Actors gives intelligence *Exit*

Enter Edmond Ironside wth Lorde and
 souldiors: /

Edmond / Praysd bee theternall bulwarke of this land
 the fortresse of my Crowne in whome I trust
 that hath thus discomfited my fooes
 by his omnipotent all Conquoringe arme
 And worthie Lordes tryumphant warriors
 whose vallours eccho through the mouth of fame
 and writes yo^u worthies in the booke of life
 mauger the envie of detraccōn
 wee render hartie thanckes to each of you
 for fightinge in o^r rites wth such bould spirites
 Continew to bee valliant, and yf god
 make vs once happie in a peacefull Raigne
 Ile guerdion every souldior bountiously
 that liftes a weapon to defend o^r rite
 Lett vs not loyter oppertunitie
 but follow danish Canute and force him flye
 One march afore, sound trumpittes stricke vppe drumes
 lett shrickinge fifes tell Canute that Edmond Comes

1020

1030

*The souldiors
 shout et
 exeunt*

Enter Canutus Edricus wth other
 Lordg and souldiers

Canutus: / A plague vppon you all for arrant Cowardg
 looke how a dunghill Cocke, not rightly bred

1040

doth come into the pitt wth greater grace
brvslinge his feathers, settinge vppe his plumes
Clappinge his winges and Crowinge lowder out
then doth a cocke of game that meanes to fight
> Yett after when he feeles the spures to pricke
> crakes like a Craven and bewrayes himself
> Even soe my bigbond daines adrest to fight
> as though they meant to scale the Cope of heaven
(and like the *Giants* grapple wth the gode) 1050
at first encounter rush vppon their foes
but straige retire? retire? nay runn a waye
as men distraught wth lightnings from aboue
or Dastardly feared wth a sodaine fraye
Edricus./ Renowned Soueraigne doe not fret yo^r self
Fortune in turninge will exalt yo^r state
and Change the Countenaunce of her Clowdy browe
now you must hope for better still and better
and Edmond must expect still worse and worse
A lowringe morninge proves a fayer daye 1060
ffortunes ilfavord frowne shewes shee will smille
on you and frowne on Ironside:/

1014 *to the ffeild*] The scribe wrote *on the stage* but another hand deleted *on* and *stage*
and above *on* interlined *in* (which was then deleted in favour of *to*) and added *ffeild* at the end.
1016 *happens*] *n* altered. 1018 *Act III, Scene iv.* 1020 *theternall*] sic. 1023
Conquoringe] sic. 1025-6 Apparently the reviser first marked 1026 or 1026-7 for omission,
then partly wiped out his lines, and marked 1025-6. 1036 *One*] *e* blotted, perhaps deleted.
1038 *Act III, Scene v.* 1052 *straige*] sic. The first question mark is evidently an error.
1054 *sodaine*] *o* altered, perhaps from *u* 1061 *frowne*] *row* altered.

Canutus: What telst thou mee of ffortune and her frownes
 of her sower visage and her rowlinge stone
 thy tongue rowles headlonge in to flattery
 now by theis heavens aboue o^r wretched heades
 ye are but Coward^y euery one of you
 Edmond is blest, oh had I but his men
 I would not doute to Conquer all the world
 in shorter tyme the *Alexander* did
 But all my Daines are *Braggadochios*
 and I accurst to bee the generall
 of such A flocke of fearefull ruſſawaies

1070

South:/ Remember you haue lost Tenn Thowsand men
 all English borne except a Thowsand Daines
 yo^r pensive lookes will kill them that survive
 yf thus to Choller you give libertie

Canutus:/ It weare noe matter yf they all weare slaine
 then they should neaver runne away againe

Vska:/ My noble lord o^r Cuntry men are safe
 in all theis broyles English gainst English fight
 the Daines or none or very few are slaine

1080

} *Turns towards Vskataull*

Canutus:/ It was a signe yee fled and did not fight
 Ist not a Dishonor vnto you

to see a foraingne nation fight for mee
 whenas my homebred Cuntrymen doe runne
 leaveinge theire kinge amongst his enimies

Edricus:/ Give not such scoope to humorous discontent
 wee all are ptners of yo^r privat greefes

Kinges are the head^e and yf the head but ache
 the little finger is distempered

1090

wee greeve to se yo^u greeved w^{ch} hurteth vs
 and yet avails not to asswage your greefe
 You are the Sunne my lo: wee Marigold^e
 whenas yo^u shine [wh] wee spred o^r selves abroade
 and take o^r glory from yo^r influence

and [But] when you hide yo^r face or darken yt
 wth. th'least incounter of a Cloudy looke
 wee Close o^r eies as partners of yo^r woes

<
<

Drooping e oʳ heades as grasse downe waid wth due < 1100
 Then Cleere ye vpp my lord [ad] and Cheere vpp vs <
 for now oʳ valours are extinguished <
 and all oʳ force lyes drownd in brinish teares <
 as Iewells in the bottome of the sea <
 I doe beseech yoʳ grace to heare mee speake } Edricus talkes to h*i*
 South: I doe [besch] not like this humor in my sonne
 twill quight discouradge all []his followers
 Vska:/ Hee stopes his eares to all perswasions
 his Councell cannot bee admitted spech
 his father *Swaine* was much more patient 1110
 and Could aswell brooke losse as victory
 Canut: Theis wordes proceede not from A shallow, braine
 Edricus Praise the event my lord the end is all
 in the meane tyme Ile goe write to *Ironsides*
 craveinge forgiuenes and insinuate :/

1069 *world*] *r* altered from *l* 1070 *the*] sic. 1082 *few*] *e* altered from beginning
 of *w* 1085 *foraingne*] sic. 1087 *kinge*] *e* altered. 1092 *se*] sic. *hurteth*] *e*
 altered from *h* 1097 *and*] this alteration is in the same ink as the preceding omission mark.
 1098 *th'least*] sic. 1101 *ye vpp*] *v* altered from *p* 1107 *quight*] sic. *discoradge*]
 sic. 1111 *aswell*] sic. 1112 *shallow, braine*] sic.

his yealdinge favor, hee is pittifull
and I am rare in moveinge passion

I knowe the prince will quickly Creditt mee
and putt affiance in my smooth pretence
but what soere hee doth or mind^s to doe
you shalbe sure to haue intelligence

1120

But good my Lord leave me a little while
to privat Contemplacōn for my head
swimes full of plott^s and other stratagemes
of great availe and I must emptie yt

Canute: God prosper what thou dost intend

Edricus: / Praye to the divell god is not my frind Exeunt manet Edricus
Stich, what Stich, Call in Stich *Enter Stich*

Stich: Heeres a Stichinge indeed, yo^u have made Stich have a stich in his
side, wth Cominge soe hastely after diner

1130

Edricus: Whie villaine darst thou eate meate in theis troublesome tymes

Stich: Dare I eate meate I and eate tyme bee hee never so troublesome
my lord weare Mars himself made of beefe and brewis
I durst in this Chollericke stomache devour him quicke

Edrick: Sure yeare a tall mann

Stich: / I sir at the end of a fraye, and begininge of a feast

Edricus: well fetch me paper and a Cornegraph

Stich: a hornegrafter what^s that, sir?

Edricus: Serra I meane an Inckhorne

Stich: Yo^u meane well sir. A blackhorne, yo^u haue dipt yo^r penne
in manye amans Inckehorne besides yo^r owne {*exit Stich*·/}

1140

Edricus: My state may bee Compared vnto his
that venters all his creditt and his wealth
vppon the fickle hazard of a Dye
the Crowne I leuell at, I venter lyfe
the Derest Iewell and of greatest price
that anie mortall hath possession of

my life is sweete yet will I venter yt } *Enter Stich wth paper*
at all or nothings trust a mother witt } and an Inckehorne

Stich: Heere ser I would never haue men that are vnmarried
soe vnprouided as they should be compelled to borough hornes
of younge men, Nor would I haue youngemen to boroughe

1150

> Inhornes of married men Oh yt is perrilous when there
 > fore heades proves blushing papers to bewraye younge buddes
 d)ricus:/ Sirrah be gon but bee not farre from hence
 > I presently shall haue occacōn
 > to imploye you in some serious busnes
 >Stich:/ I wilbe absent when yo^u Call I warrant yo^u Exit Stich

Edricus sittȳ downe writteth and blotteth

Edricus:/ Nay trye thie wittē thou writtest for awager
 tis not for gold, but grace, and for thie life
 A thinge that would putt spirrit in a blocke
 and bee a whetstone to a blunter head
 wth what exordion shall I wine his harte
 how shall I tye his eares to my discourse
 A schole boye hath a redier witt then I
 I never tryed my barraine sponce tell now
 and now I see I am not Edricus
 but a most blockish and dulpated hinde
 |graveld at such an esie interprise

1160

1170

1120 *what*] *ha* altered, perhaps from *at* paper. *good*] second *o* inserted. 1129 *have a*] *h* altered. 1130 *hastely*] sic. 1135
yeare] sic. *mann*] second *n* altered or touched up. 1137 *Cornegraph*] sic. 1141
amans] sic. *Inckehorne*] above *r* is the beginning of a tall letter. 1150 *vnmarried*] sic,
 probably for *married* 1152 *boroughe*] first *o* altered from *r* and *r* from *o* 1153 *Inhornes*]
In altered from *t* and the beginning of *o* 1157 *busnes*] sic. 1160 *awager*] sic.
 1164 *exordion*] sic. 1167 *never*] *v* altered from *r*

What standest thou triflinge and delayinge tyme
 fetch fyre from heaven and mix yt wth thie incke
 gather Parassus due and writte wth that
 plucke Cyllens feathers and make pens wth them
 borrow the *Muses* ayd and lett them breath
 some dulcet and melodious harmonye
 some never hard of woord^e into thie pate

Hee writteth and blotteth

Ah foole how hard yt is to writte for lyfe
 had I now written for my M^{ris} love
 I could haue fild my pene, and rayسد my spech
 vnto the highest stepp of flattery

1180

had I now written for an other man
 to save his life or gett him into grace
 why all the world might have given place to mee
 for sugred lynes and phrases past Compaire
 had I bine now in favor wth the kinge
 and had indeuored to flatter him
 my pene would have distelled golden dropes
 and varied tearmes inchauntinge *Cerberus*

1190

But now I knowe not how or what to writte
 to flatter weare to agravate my faulte
 for anger would sift out my vild intent
 Plainely to writte weare to accuse my self
 and bee a witnessse gainst my guiltie soule
 Yet writt I will and in the plainest sorte
 for that is Cosen German vnto truth
Truth needes noe cullors though I meane to lye
 my simple writtinge shall deceave his eie

Hee writteth and sayeth

1200

I soe, O rare Conceyted peece of worke
 how cuningly thou [Cast] canst convert thy shape
 into an Angell when thoudost intend
 to flatter the plaine honest meaninge kinge

hee fouldes yt vppe

Now for a swift winge footed messenger
 to flye in post that I might follow him

yt more behoofes mee to bee Cercumspect
and wth my life to trust none but myself
swyfter then sure is noe good messenger

And now I thincke ont oh tis exelent
Ile for this once deliuer yt my self
but in disigisement of my mans attyre
soe may I safly goe and vnderstand
how *Edmond* is adicted vnto mee
and how all matters now are mannaged
Stich: Stich: } Enter Stich

Stich. Yo^r will sir

Edricus: / My will is that yo^u will vncase for I meane to Change apparell<.

Stich: whye sir yo^u not turne wiseman will yo^u

Edricus: Yes foole for this once, Come I saye when

Stich: Mary sir when I soñe boote Comeinge roundly from you for I <p
promise yo^u I will not Change wthout boote

1210

1220

1172 *fetch*] *e* inserted. 1173 *Parassus*] sic. *writte*] sic, cf. 1179, 1191, 1194, and
1196. 1174 *Cyllens*] sic. 1185 *why*] *h* altered from *y* 1186 *Compaire*] *C* altered
from beginning of *s* also *r* altered. 1191 *writte*] *w* altered from *r* 1195 *gainst*] *n* altered
from the beginning of *s* 1197 *vnto*] *v* altered from *n* 1201 *Conceyted*] *c* altered from *e*
and first *e* from *c* 1202 *cuningly*] *g* inserted. 1203 *thoudost*] sic. 1208 *Cercumspect*]
sic. 1211 *ont*] sic. 1213 *disigisement*] sic. 1216 *matters*] *m* altered from *a*
1220 *yo^u not*] sic, apparently for *yo^u will not* 1222 Perhaps the word *see* or *feel* has been
omitted after the first *I* Traces of a *p* remain at the end of the line, possibly deleted.
1223 *boote*] sic.

Edricus: But I will sirrah Come dispatch

FOL. 110^b

Stich: / well sir sence their is shift but I must change
shiftes I am contented } *They shifte apparell*

By my troth sir methinckes yare a properer man by oðe
in those the ye weare in theis, I would I Could perswade him
to bee leue mee then yt should bee knowne by his aparell
what a foole I haue made of him S^r shall wee change liveinge and
lord shippe and name and all

1231

Edricus: / I Stich for this once, thou shalt bee Lord Edricus and I Stich
looke - - - yo^u keepe in tell [yo^u] I Come home Iadvise you and
behaue yourself like a Lord

Stich: I warant yo^u good *Stich* Ile be lordly enough: farwell honest
Stich, fawell foole

Edricus: Now am I Edricus and Edricus man
the secratary and the messenger
All to effect wth Counterfeytinge guile
experimente of matchles pollecy

1240

well this plaine suite doth now Contayne more witt
then for soe meane a peece of Cloth is fitt *Exit Edricus*

Enter Stich in his lorde attire

wth Blewcoates after him:

Stich: Come on Yee blewcoated slaves, you that weare sattine doblets
never but at good tymes, and weare a blew-coate buto once
in a yare, Come on I saye, ye trencher scrapeing cutters Yee
Cloake bagge Cariers, ye sword and bucklere carriers ye rubbers
of horse heles, ye Devourers of fatt oxen ye swillers of March
beere, Come after mee I saye, take example after my vertue howe 1250
to mount, I proceedinge from the loynes of a man very littel better
the a gentle man, am now by my vertue and good educcon to bee
yo^r Master, yo^r vpholders, the staffe of yo^r lifes, and maintainer of
yo^r mastershipes, vncover Ye rouges. soe Cover. so. sirrah take my
Cloake, beare yov my rapier, soe I am some what humerous and

yt becomes mee, well, follow mee follow, How I can playe the lorde
 parte, oh what a foole is my m^r to Change his nobillitie for
 my worshipec.

›Roger Blud sir, or sir Stich you must goe in heres a folloinge

› wee must waite on you must wee 1260

›tich: Blud S^r yo^u must goe in, Oh hould me hould me I am Collicricke

› whye ye shakeragge had ye never a lord vnder yo^r gerdell

› plaine S^r Stich wth out welt or gard, whie howe now You

› malipert knave haue ye forgott all good manners

›Roger: Good manners bee yo^r speede:

Stich: whie this tis to keepe familiiar serveingman, As I am a Lord
 by my honno^r I sweare, I will revenge yt, wth puttinge yo^u out of
 my howse, yo^u fellowes take example by his punishment, follow
 me iust 3 foote behind not aboue nor beneth and Roger

Act 4 Rackehell for yo^r sawsines come yo^u last } *Exeunt* 1270

1228 *the*] sic. 1229 *bee leue*] sic. 1233 A word has been smudged out and dots substituted. 1236 *farwell*] sic. An *exit* is needed for Stich, cf. 1243. 1238 *secratary*] sic. 1239 *wth*] *w* altered from *to* 1241 *suite*] perhaps *siute* (cf. 488 and 1602). 1243 *Act III, Scene vi.* 1245 *blewcoated*] *o* altered from *a* 1246 *blew-coate*] *w* altered from *co* 1248 *bucklere*] final *e* altered. 1249 *Devourers*] *D* probably altered from the beginning of *s* 1252 *the*] sic. 1254 *rouges*] sic. 1255 *yov*] *v* altered. 1259 *goe*] *g* altered. 1263 *Stich*] sic.

Ayleward wth Edricus disguised :/

Edm: What winde doth Cause yo^r M^r writte to vs
all is not well I doute give mee the Letter

The Letter :/

Prepaire *Perillus* Bull to punish mee
or some new never-hard of torteringe paine
to scourge me for my foule ingratitude
Rumor did rayse suspicion in my harte
as yt hath lately done wthin yo^r brest
by some whoe envied my prosperitie
my love and zeale vnto your Maiestie
that yo^u were doutefull of my spotles truth
and meant to cutt mee of by Cuttinge shorte
my headles body wth a bloody Axe
This on a sodaine cominge to my eare
yt payrd my harte and strooke me to the quické
causeinge me flee the Courte to save my life
as sadly as the late espoused man
greeves to Depte from his new married wife

1280

how manie sighes[s] I fetched at my Departé
how manie tymes I turnd to Come againe
how oft I plained how often[ddid] I [weepe] did weepe
were too too longe to writte or yo^u to reade
But haveinge now Considred wth myself
my ouer light beleefe to Credulous

1290

I come againe like to a strayed sheepe
tainted god watt wth naught but ignorance
oh take mee to yo^r mercye, or yf not soe
kill mee yo^r self death is the eand of woe

finis Letter 1300

Edm: Heare ye my lordé this humble suplicacõ
yo^r m^r is become an Orrator
but tell him Edmond is not lunaticke
soe like a woeman to be wonne wth woordes

Edricus. This Cottnes accordinge to my minde
the kinge is angrie see hee faceth me
his collour comes and goes, I hold my life

hee knowes mee, would I wer well away <
 Edmond: Harke yee my lord; what would yo^u saye <
 yf yon plaine fellow should bee Edricus < 1310
 Alfrick: I thinke not soe my Lord <
 Edmond./ Ile quickly knowe
 come hether fellow tell thy m^r thus:/ *he* pulls of the velvet patch of his face <
 what Edricus ist yo^u I thought noe lesse
 you ment some good noe dout tell me the troth
 what was the reason yo^u Came this disguise
 Edricus:/ Now witt or never helpe, poore naked trewth
 hath taine awaye svspicōn of decept
 I neede noe arte, Art cannot helpe mee now
 then plainly thus renowned soveraigne 1320
 I came thus plainely to yo^r maiestye
 disguised in clownes attire to sound the truth
 what oppinion yf good or bad

1271 *Act IV, Scene i.* 1274 *is]* interlined. 1276 *Perillus]* sic. 1281
prosperitie] *s* (a long Italian *s*) inserted. 1287 *the]* *e* inserted. 1291 *sighes]* the scribe
 originally wrote *sightes* and then altered *i* to *e* and *e* to *s* and deleted *s* 1294 *writte]* *w*
 altered. 1295 *haveinge]* *v* altered from *e* 1296 *beleefe]* second *e* altered from the
 beginning of *l* 1297 *strayed]* *st* resembles *ft* 1300 *kill]* *ll* blotted, possibly altered.
Letter] after the *r* and apparently detached from it there is a mark rather like 'i3': it may
 possibly be a form of &c or possibly a mere flourish. 1305 *Cottnes]* sic, apparently for
Cottnes not 1312 *Ile]* *e* perhaps altered. 1315 *noe]* altered from *me* 1316 *this]* sic.
disguise] *g* altered from *u* 1318 *suspicion]* *v* altered from *i* 1320 *soveraigne]* *v* altered.
 1321 *maiestye]* *y* altered from *e*

Yo^u had of me, And yf I found yt good
 I had determied to bewray myself
 yf otherwise, I meant wth secret speede
 to leave my native cuntry and to exile
 myself from England sayleinge into *Spaine*
 whereas I meant in Contemplacōn
 in pilgramage and prayers for yo^r grace
 to end my life.

1330

Enter a messenger runinge

Messenger:/ Hast, hast, kinge Edmund to releve thie land
 which is opprest by multitudes of Daines
 they swarme alonge thy Coste like little gnates
 ouer a river in a Summers night
 or like to bees when they begine to flight
 soe Comes theis Daines prepared fitt to fight
 Their Battaille mane of Threescore Thowsand men
 wth bristle poynted speeres w^{ch} vpright stand
 shewes like a new shred grove of Ashes tall
 or elce a wood of pines and seaders [tall] small
 Their flagges and Banners yellow, blew and red
 resembles much the weedē in ripened Corne
 Their Drummes and Trumpittē wth a dredfull sound
 of Clashingē armō^r and fyer brethingē steedes
 soundes like the fearefull Thunder sent from heaven
 mixt wth *Aolus* boystrous northen breth
 They praye vppon thie subiects cruelly
 like hungry Tygers vppon silley kiddē
 sparinge not Ancient men for reverence
 nor weomen for imbisillitie
 nor guiltles babes for their vnspoted life
 nor holy men their maddnes is so rife
 Edmund:/ A sunne shine Daye is quicly ouercaste
 a springeinge budd is killed wth a blast
 I see my state is fickell and vn Timer
 there is nothinge in this world can fermly Dure
 yet corage Lordē we were and are the same
 o^r hartes are sound o^r bodies are not lame

1340

1350

1360

> then lett not fear dismay yo^r warlike might
 > god fightes for vs, god will defend the right
 > Bace Edricus thou wert the fatall Crowe
 > that by thie hored voyce this newes did showe
 > thou camst to gaine wth Cursed trechery
 > the surname of vild inckname polecye/

Right did I thinke whenas the fox did preach
 he ment to gett a goose wthin his reach
 right did I Gesse when wth thie oylie speech
 thou didest my pardon and my grace beseech
 some mischife was a Broch but god a boue
 Doth alwai at a pinch my patron proue
 And wee have now learnd though to o^r laile
 not to beleeeve each smooth face forged taile

1370

Edricus: Now my most gracious Lord as god shall helpe mee
 my cominge was onely for this intende
 to vnfold Canutus cominge and bewraye
 matters of secret to yo^r maiestye

1325 *determined*] sic. *bewray*] *r* altered. 1329 *Contemplacōn*] *p* overlaps the last
 minim of *m* 1334 *multitudes*] second *t* altered from *d* and *s* altered probably from
 another *s* 1342 *seaders*] sic. 1348 *northen*] sic, *t* inserted. 1352 *imbisillitie*]
 sic. 1353 *unspoted*] *n* altered. 1364 *hored*] sic. *voyce*] *y* altered. 1366
inckname] sic. 1367 *whenas*] *h* altered from *e* and *e* from *n* 1369 *Gesse*] first *s* altered
 from *e* *wth*] *w* altered from *t* and the beginning of *h* *speech*] *p* altered perhaps from *e*
 1372 *patron*] *r* altered from *t* 1373 *laile*] sic. 1377 *bewraye*] *r* altered perhaps from *a*

Counsells of great availe rare stratagemes

FOL. 112^a

plotted by Canutus w^{ch} now shall dye wth mee

1380

yf yoⁿ seeme anie whitt suspicious

Edmund I prethy harke, lett mee heare some of them

Edrius talketh wth *Edmund* secretly *Alfricke* pulls him ba

Alfricke:/ Traytor darst thou presume

to speake vnto thie soveraign? good my Lord

as god shall healpe mee you wilbee in trapt

Edricus: Traytor? remember this. malice hath a pfect memory

Edmund: Alfrick yoⁿ are to blame yoⁿ doe forgett yo^rself

age makes yee dote, know I not what to doe

wth out yo^r tellinge, goe too hold yo^r peace

1390

1f:
A[yleward:] [Alfrick yo^r Combe is cutt yet will I speake

kinge I am sworne to Counsell thee aright

and though I dye, I will not hold my tongue

remember hee hath often broke his faith

and fled awaye from yoⁿ remember too

hee Comes from Canuty thie vtter enimie

remember he is a traytorous flatterer, A villaine & a dambned hipoc

Edmund: Peace Ayleward, hold yo^r tongue

my youth in som thinges ouerrunes yo^r age

tis pollecy to graunte him audience

1400

naye further grace, naye further yf hee Craues

perhapes the leadinge o^r armye too

for thus I thinke yt stande hee hath promised Canutus

haveinge the leadinge of o^r forces

to yeald to him seeming as though compeld

haveinge first givene an onsett on the foe

for cullo^{rs} sake but wee will ouer match him

for whilst the force of Canute on pollecy

retyres by Edricke drift, then wee will take

the oppertunitie and rush wth speed

1410

vppon his troopes whoe vnprepared to fight
and trustinge vppon Edricke pollecy
 shall all come pray vnto o^r souldio^{rs}
 how like yo^u this:

Alfrick: It cannot hape amis

Edmund: Come hether Edricus: they whisper Edm. saith: <
 I faith ye lye they whisper againe <
 Tut, tut, yt cannot bee they whisper againe <

If this bee trew I pardon thee for all
 and will reward thee wth diservd grace
 I will not dout yt, faith I think tis trew
 though yt weare not in hope thou wilt amend
 goe lett vs in and lett all quarrells end
 for now I meane indeed to Creditt thee
 by beinge captaine generall [] of my armie

1420

Edricus:/ Dutie and thanks I give tis all I have
 See what dessemulacōn bringes to passe
 howe quicly I Cann make the kinge an asse *Exeunt.*

1379 *availe*] first *a* altered from *v* 1381 *suspicious*] *u* probably inserted. 1383
Edrius] sic. 1386 *shall*] second *l* crowded in. 1391 *yet*] *e* altered from beginning
 of *t* 1393 *my*] apparently written *n y* (there is a space but no trace of a third minim).
 1395 *fled*] interlined. 1396 *viter*] *e* altered from *r* 1397 *dambned*] sic. 1400 *graunte*]
 there is a dot above *n* 1406 *givene*] sic, *ne* altered from *in* 1409 *Edricke*] *ic* altered
 from *c* 1411 *whoe*] *w* altered from the beginning of *h* 1413 *come pray*] i.e. become
 prey. 1424 *Creditt*] *C* altered, perhaps from *er* 1425 There is either a blot or a mark
 in the paper. 1427 *dessemulacōn*] sic.

Enter Emma her Two sonnes Alphred and
Edward in each hand *Gunthranus* goeing before

FOL. 112^b

1430

Emma: Sweete Boyes borne to be crost before yo^r tyme[s]
oh lett mee kisse yo^u ere yo^u goe awaye
curst bee the Cavse of [y]o^r departinge thus
the psicution of theis bloody daines
whose vnrelenting eies delight to see
the full conclusion of o^r tradegie

Alphred:/ Good mothe sorrow not though wee depte
wee shalbee welcome to o^r vnclē *Richard*
and saffer there then in this trobled Ile
w^{ch} like the reelingē sea is tost wth warr
heere wee are ever in continuall broyles
there in tranquillitie in peace and rest
heere in the midst of vnknowne enimies
there in the armes of true approved frindē
here danger eminent doth Compasse vs
there frindy and frindly Counsell shall defend vs
Therefore reioyce wee are escaped the Daines
whose greedy mawes deuoures the *Saxons* blood
like hungry lions, voyd of anie good

1440

Emma: Good boye in whome thie fathers feature lives
though death hath seazd him in his wastefull armes
if I could moderate my greeved minde
wthout remembrance what ere now I was
then should **my** greefe deminish wth my teares
But memory the afflictor of the soule
bides me remember how I was a *Queene*
how *Egelredus* was my lawfull Lord
how *Normands Duke* was my renowned syre
how *Englande* was my pleasures paradise
and how tyme was when tyme did waite on mee

1450

> All theis are but Bellowes to the fyer
> to burne my harte, consumed afore wth sighthes
> *Alphred*, *Need* is a childe thou arte of age
> to take example by my myserye
> not to beleve foule fortunes flatterye

1460

ward·/ Good mother weepe not, yf yee doe Ile crye

Emma:/ Ah my prittie harte

hast thou a feeleinge of my passion?
then will I weepe the more to ease my harte
Ile morne for thee, for him and for my self
for England and for Edmund Ironside
whose pte god prosper, Heaven defend the right

1470

Gun: Madam yo^r healpeles teares are but a meanes
to drawe more teares from vs to drowne o^r hartes

Emma: Whie man I wep(e) to ease and not to load
I trowe the more I shed, the lesse I have
and as my teares wast soe my cares consume
To dam my [harte] eies were bvt to drowne my harte
like *Hecuba* the wofull Queene of Troye
whoe haveinge noe avoydance for her grefe

1480

1429 *Act IV, Scene ii.* Emma] second *m* altered from *a* 1433 *o^r*] *o* touched up.
thus] *u* inserted. 1436 *tradegie*] sic. 1437 *mothe*] sic. 1439 *saffer*] sic, cf. 1500.
then] apparently a minim has been deleted after *n* 1442 *there*] the *t* has probably been
added. 1446 *frinds*] after the *i* the scribe first made three minims and began the *d* and
then altered the third minim to *d* and added *g* *frindly*] *f* touched up in brown ink. 1454
my greefe] *my* interlined in another hand. 1458 *Normands Duke*] *s* added and *Duke* inter-
lined in another hand. *renowned*] first *n* altered. 1462 *sighthes*] sic, cf. 1504. 1463
Need] sic. 1464 *myserye*] first *y* altered. 1472 *prosper*] *s* altered from the beginning of *p*
1473 *teares*] *a* altered from *r* 1475 *wepe*] final *e* obscured by a blot or flaw (cf. 1425).
1478 *eies*] interlined. *bvt*] *bv* altered from *w*

Rann madd for sorrow cause shee could not weepe
 But good Gunthranus to omit vaine talke
 sence I have heretofore aproved thy faith
 I make a Choyce of thee amongst the rest
 of manie frindes to guide my little Boyes
 and to conduct them into *Normandy*
 intreat my brother for to intreat them well
 they are his Nephewes and his sisters ioye
 if anie thinge amis should light on them
 the same on mee should bee redobled

1490

Gunthra: Madam even by the liveinge god I vowe
 I will attend and watch them as my soule
 knowinge duke *Richard* will accompt of them
 as nigh of blood unto his Royall self

Emma: / Then farwell boyes the Comfort of my life } *they* offer to depte
 Yet Come againe yee shall not soe departe
 if that wee dye weile Choose to dye to geither.
 dyeinge or liveing wee wilbee to geither
 fonde woeman blesse them and then lett them goe

1500

Then farwell once againe, god blesse you both } *they* offer to depte
 But Softe awhile I have not sayd my minde
 first lett me wash your face in mothers teares
 then sobb out sighthes to overload the earth

and cast a mistie fogge uppon the [w]ayre } *Shee* imbraceth them
 that noe inquireinge foe may find you out

oh lett yo^r sanctuary bee my lappe
 yo^r refuge, yo^r sepulchers, and your graves
 a Cradle fitte yo^u better then a shippe

She sittē downe and sett
Edward on her knee a
Alphred in her arme <

Gunthra: See see Dame *Naturs* operacōn
 what force yt breedes wthin a mothers mind
 none feeles a mothes sorrow but a mother

1510

This Queene hath not her peere vppon [h]the earth
 for wisdome suffringe and for patience
 for Cloakeinge sorrow a desemblinge greefe
 and beareinge all thinges wth a Constant minde
 yt can shee not conceale affection soe
 but that yt breaketh forth like hidden fyre } *Emma rise*
 Emma: / ffe, fye, hid *Natures* found indulgencie
 dep^{te} sweet Boyes, god keepe you in yo^r waye } *they offer*
 Come hether Aphred, Ned I prethe staye
 I will goe wth you to the foaminge haven
 and take my farwell of my darlinges there } *exeunt omnes*
 Enter Canutus with a Letter in his hand
 and wth him: Vskataulfe: Swethoe:
 Southampton: Archbishope of Caunterbury:
 Egina: wth souldiers.
 Canutus: / Coradge brave Captaines Conquest is at hand
 this letter comes from trustie Edricus
 and certifies mee that hee is in grace
 wth Edmund Ironsid, and howe hee lead^e

1481 *Rann*] *R* blotted, perhaps altered. 1482 *omit*] *o* altered from minim. 1483 *faith*] *i* crowded in. 1489 *them*] *m* altered from *n*. 1495, 1501, 1520 The short rules appear to indicate pauses after these lines. 1497 *weile*] sic, *i* inserted. 1500 *saffest*] sic, cf. 1439. 1502 *Softe*] *S* altered from *f*. 1504 *sighthes*] sic, cf. 1462. 1505 *ayre*] *re* added, the word was originally *way*. 1507 *lappe*] first *p* altered, second *p* altered from *e*. 1509 *shippe*] *i* inserted. 1512 *mothes*] sic. 1515 *a*] sic. 1517 *yt*] sic. 1519 *indulgencie*] *y* altered from *i*. 1521 *Aphred*] sic. 1524 *Act IV, Scene iii.* 1525 *him*] *h* altered. 1531 *Ironsid*] sic.

the vantgarde of the princes armye
 now he assures mee of the victorie
 wthout the losse of manie souldiors

for hee will disapoynt the warlike youth
 and flee to vs, leaveinge him desolate
 where fore brave souldiors put forth all yo^r might
 to quaille theire stomaches at the first approch
 hee that doth take the prince in fight or flight
 shall have his ransome and dubd a knight

1540

- 1 *Soul:* Ile venter hard to make Ioane my wif a Ladye
 2 *Soul:* The king shall scape my fingers narrowly
 3 *Soul:* Masse if I had steele sides as hee hath Ironsides
 I would gore him thim that I would
 4 *Soul:* What yf misse the kinge, Ile have a Duke
 an Earle a Lord, a knight, or gentleman
 South: Or noebody and then youle hitt yt
 tell not yo^r chickens sires, ere they bee hatched
 perchaunce the egges are rotten in the nest
 then all yo^r broodinge hopes is cast awaye
 and you remaine as rich as new shorne sheepe
 I never loved to gaine by trechery
 for that againe was lost by trechery
 I doe remember hardy *Hanniball* :
 did vse theis woord^e at wonne *Tarentums* losse

1550

Eadem arte qua prius cœpimus
Tarentum amisimus

ffraud woone *Tarentum* ffraud *Tarentum* lost
 soe Hanniball reapes his labor for his Cost
 The druñs sound afar off

1560

- Canutus: Soe Edmund so thou Comste vnto thie cost
 thy roreinge druñe persageth thy mishape
 ringinge thie soules knell wth a hollow voyce
 as thine doth mourne soe lett o^r Druñe reioyce
 The Druñe[s] sound Enter
 Edmond wth Edricus other
 Lorde and souldiers they fight
 Canutus gives et exeunt

Enter at one dore Canutus and at th'other Edricus

t)us:/ Edricus

1570

)ricus/ My Lord : hye Cheere yo^r flyeing troopes

) and bid them stay awhile for victory

) whenas you see mee lead my men aloofe

) then take occacōn and assaile the prince

) and Ile be absent when hee neede mee most

) and present for yo^r best availe, make hast

)Canutus:/ How much I love thee Edricus heavens doe knowe

) and I wth guiftes one day will manifest } Exit Canute

) Edricus./ Soe Edrick now thie plotforme is afoote

and one shall dye yt skills noe matter w^{ch}

1580

yf Edmund, Canute shall quickly follow him

yf Canute, then Edmond shall not staye behinde

whilst they wth eger blowes assaile each other

I heere remaine a newter free from feare

not takeinge pte wth Canute nor Ironside

before I see whoe gettē the victory

1540 *and dubd*] sic, evidently for *and be dubd*
misse] sic, for *yf I misse* 1562 *persageth*] sic.
minim. 1569 *Canutus*] *nu* five minims.

1544 *thim*] sic, *i* inserted.

1545 *yf*

1563 *knell*] *ll* altered, apparently from

1576 *present*] *pr* altered.

Yet had I rather have Canutus Conquer
and privilye will aid him wth supplies
rather then Edmund should escape the feild

FOL. 114^a

Alarum Enter Edmund 1590
chaseinge of Canutus Edricus backes Canutus
Edmund flies: exeunt: and returne. Canutus
wth Edricus

Canutus: Thanckes worthie *Edricke* for this victory
this daye had made an end of me and mine
hadst Thou not backed vs wth thie warlike troopes
know ye yf Edmond be escaped or noe?

Edricus:/ Edmund is gon and I must after him
to staye longe heere would breed suspition
then mightie *Canute* live longe a Conquerer 1600
and when thou hast the Crowne remember mee

Canutus:/ yf I forgett thee, god forgett my suite
when like a sinner I doe humbly praye
forgett the *Edricke* god aboue doth see
how good a harte I ever bore to thee

Edricus:/ Then noble Canutus, I pawne a souldiors faith
by my best blood, and by my after hopes
I will remaine to thee and to thy heires
as trew, as falce to Edmund Ironside
Lett vs not linger heere muster yo^r men 1610
and make them reddy for a new assault
I will to *Edmund* and excuse my self

——— and how I served him now Ile serve him then: *exeunt* <

Act 5 Enter Edmund Ironside Alfricke <

Vlfkettle Goodwine wth others:/ <

Edmund: Vild *Edricus* all this proceede from him
I saved his life and hee doth thirst for mine
vngratefull wretch, hellish incarnat divell
for sure noe man was ever soe vnkind
vnto his kinge and loveinge Cuntryemen 1620
disloyall and vnfaithfull Sicophant
yt greeves my vexed soule to thinke on thee

Alfricke:/ Lett yt not greeve yo^u, rather ioye to thinke

yoⁿ are escaped from the hande of him
 that sought like *Iudas* to betraye his Lord
 into the hande of blood thirstye Daines

Vlfkettle: / Surely my Lord you are highly favord
 of god whoe sees each humaine accōn
 that hee hath given you warninge wth small losse
 of the contagious minde of *Edricus*: /

1630

*Enter Edricus wth his hand in a skarfe,
 haultinge, with him Stich*

Stich: / M^r I would not wishe you haulte

Edricus: / Whie soe

Stich: / Marry sir you know *Alfricke* is a cripple and the proverbe is
tis ill haultinge before a cripple Heele perceve yt.

1594 *victory*] *v* altered apparently from *w* 1596 *Thou*] *T* altered. 1602 *suite*] perhaps *suite* (cf. 488 and 1241). 1613 *how*] *h* altered from the beginning of *l* *served*] *r* altered perhaps from *v* 1614 *Act V, Scene i.* 1616 *him*] *m* altered from *n* 1619 *vnkind*] *i* inserted. 1623 *greeve*] *g* altered. 1635 *proverbe*] *b* altered. 1636 *Heele*] *H* altered probably from the beginning of *y* or *w*

Edricus had hee as manie birde as *Iunos* birde
or could peirce milstons wth his searchinge sight
hee (by his leave) should not my haultinge find
I haulte not in the Thigh but in the mind
All haile vnto my gracious Soueraigne

FOL. 114^b

1640

Stich: M^r youle beraye yo^r self, doe yo^u saye all haile, and yett
beare yo^r arme in a Scarfe that haile indeed

Edricus: / All haile vnto my gracious soueraigne

Edmund: / *Iudas* thie next pte is to kisse my Cheeke
and then Comitt mee vnto *Cayphas*: /

Edricus: / I vnderstand not what yo^r highnes meanes

Edmund: / Oh heavens, oh impudent vngodly wretch

Edricus: / I hope yo^r grace doth not exclaime on mee

Edmund: / On thee, hence graceless wretch, grace mee noe more
is there none heere that will laye hould on him ?
his sight, his breth, his fell infectious tongue
is venumer then is the *Basiliskes*

1650

Edricus: / Is this a [g⟨er⟩dion] guerdion for my skarrs and hurtes
for all my bruses and my broken ioyntes
Is this a hier for my hardines

and valliant onsett on the enimies ?

are theis my wages w^{ch} I woone wth blood

[blood of my self, and prowdest daine that fought]

doth Edmund thus reward his followers

that pawne theire lives for him and in his Cause

then bootlesse haue I skirmished soe longe

and sent soe many daines vnto their graves

In vaine haue I lift vppe my wastinge arme

and brandished my fawchion ore thie foes

In vaine this curtelax was reared aloft

w^{ch} made a laine throughout thie foemens troopes

In vaine, my launce did ou'throw and spoyle

Invaine I live to bee requited thus

1660

> Stich: / In vaine, what a vaine, vaine my M^r is in

> Edmund: / Didst thou not flye vild traytor to my foe ?

> Edricus: / Whoe I ?

Edmund: / Even thou

1670

> Edricus:/ Thus forward frindes are quited wth suspect
 thus envye blast^e the well deservinge wight
 thus the vnskillfull blames the warroure
 thus thus Detraccōn hinders vertuous course
 fled I my Lord *Canutus* can reporte
 twas hee that should have fled had succor Come
 fled I my Lorde yo^r eies were witnesses
 how farr my harte was free from Dastard flight
 But this yt is to bee a man at armes
 when his desert is recompenced wth hate
 and resolucōn wrongd wth ignorance
 for shame my Lorde spurne not against the trowth
 Thirst not to drinck the blood of inocente
 Edmund:/ Whie Edricus canst thou denie thie flight

1680

1637 *Edricus*] added later, apparently in a different hand. *bird^e*] sic, presumably for
eyes 1641 *Soveraigne*] *ig* altered from *n* 1642 *youle*] sic. *beraye*] sic, for *bewraye*
 1645 *next*] *e* altered from *x* 1649 *exclaine*] sic. 1653 *venumer*] sic. 1654 *guerdion*]
 interlined above *g*(*)**erdion* deleted, the second letter having been altered, and now lost in
 a hole. 1656 *hier*] *h* probably altered from the beginning of *f* 1668 *In*] *n* altered.
launce] *nc* altered from *ce* 1669 *Invaine*] sic. 1671 *traytor*] *y* altered from beginning
 of *t* 1675 *blast^e*] *l* altered from *a* 1676 *warroure*] sic.

Edricus: / Noe gracious Lord I must confesse I fled
forced from *Canutus* not to him for aid
and that tis true, I by yo^r graces leave
will prove on him that dares afferme a noe

FOL. 115^a

1690

Edmund: / I sawe thee flee myself wth theis my eyes

Vlfk: And I my Lord am witnes to the same

Alf: [Goodw:] And I my Lord will proue yt by yo^r favor

Edricus: / I would the kinge would give mee leave [the] to speake

Stich: / And you will prove them blind I hould my life

Edmund: / I give the leave, speake for thyself and spare not

Edricus: / Seeinge yo^r grace soe forward to the fight
vewing the Daine to march soe [] bravely on
prickd forth wth shame I as the foremost man

1700

[not suffringe the Daine to sett on vs
or to approach yo^r grace wth out a blowe)
stept forth intendinge to incounter them
and to assaile the rereward wth my band
till yoⁿ vppon the fore front held them playe
But see how good intent^e are ever thwarted
ere I could gett the wind to Compasse them
yo^r Dru^mes reteate did Cause yo^r forces flee
yet fled not I a foote vntell such tyme
as quight bereft of hope I was compeld
witnes this arme this serviceable arme
that in dispite of death did save my life
witnes theis skares w^{ch} yf yo^r grace will see
theile tell my foes vnto theire face they lye.

1710

Stich: / Oh horrible skarres, skares like blaseinge stares,
well counterfeyted Master

Edmund: / yf this bee trew I was to Credulous

Edricus: If yt bee true my Lord? assure yo^r self
your grace was misinformd if otherwise
and that my man can veryfie

1720

Stich: / Take heed what ye saye M^r I can veryfie n[<]) thinge <
marry I can veryly anie thinge. yf youle saye soe <
Ile sweare [soe] to yt, [tth] that tis falce I <)meane <

Edmu: Then *Edricus* twas I that wronged thee <)

and I that will in all thinges make amen(> <
 burye vnkinnes in oblivion <
 and nere remember o^r suspition <
Edric9 Twas not yo^r highnes but some fawninge mate<
 that put mistrust in to yo^r graces head
 hopeinge by my dowfall to raise himself 1730
 but heavens defend the wronged innocent
Edmund: / Lett this suffice thou hast confirmd o^r love
 and *Edric9* wee mind to honnor thee
 wth publike notice of thie Loyaltie
Edricus: See, See what witt and will can bringe aboute
Canut9 paies mee for my villaie
 and *Edmund* loves mee for my trecherye
Stich: / Give a man luck and cast him over the gallous *exeunt omnes* <
 Enter Canutus readinge of letter wth him <
 Southampton Arch: of Canterbury < 1740
 Egina Vskataulf & Swetho: wth souldiers <

1691 *him*] altered from *hm* 1693 *Lord*] *L* altered from *H* 1699 A letter has
 been smudged out, possibly *g* 1705 *till*] *i* altered from *e* 1708 *reteate*] sic. 1721-3 The
 ends of these lines are on a detached fragment of paper, which in mending has been placed two
 lines too low, so that they now stand opposite 1723-5. 1722 *veryly*] sic. 1724 *that*] *h*
 altered from *a* 1726 *vnkinnes*] sic. 1730 *dowfall*] sic. 1736 *villaie*] sic. 1738
gallous] sic. 1739 *Act V, Scene ii.* 1740 *Southampton*] *m* interlined.

*Canut9: / My lorde my harte is firmly bond to you
and I am prest to doe you anye seruyce
But Edmund is growne strange to me of late
and I am not familliar wth his thoughtes
when I haue onc regaind oppinion
I will not fayle to bee your faithfull agent
In meane tyme make yee stronge to hould him playe
for hee is cominge wth a mightie power.*

FOL. 115^b

Bireladye this goes hard, theis newes are naught
is Edmund now growne wary, then I doute
I nere shall see the daye I longe haue sought
But I must beare a semblance of good newes
least theis pceave our hopes to faulter
and that would cleane discourage all theire hartes
for all presume on Edrics pollecy:

1750

South: Sofie ist good newes

Canut9: My Lord exceedinge good

Egina: Give me the Letter

Canut9: Not for all the world

1760

I dare not trust myself wth readeinge yt
least I oreclloyd wth ioye should playe the blabe
Lett this suffice I now am Confident
vppon sure grounded confirmacōns
that Edmund is my owne, hee writtes to mee
that hee is cominge wth a mightie host
but (saith hee) bee not you discomfited
for were they millions, half should fight for you
and turne their weapons vppon Ironside

South: Tis strange the prince should bee soe Credulous

1770

The Druñe soundes a far off

) Canut9. Yon Druñe doth tell vs Edmund Ironside

) vnwittinge of his overthrow at hand

) comes gallantly attended on by troopes

) of horse and footemen to his funerall

) Oh that thou knewst thy dyeinge daye soe nigh

) hat thou mightest make the fitt to goe to god

) n faith yt greeves at the very harte

yo see him Come soe vnprepaired for death

Enter Edmund, Emma, Arch: Yorke

1780

Edricus, Alfricke, Goodwine Ayleward

Vlfkettle, Leofricke, and Turkillus

Edmund: Behold where Canute: comes marchinge bravely on
me thinkes yon sight would make a sickeman sound

They march a longe the stage

one an other

E)dmund: Canutus

Canut9: Edmund

Edmund: The ground thou standst vppon is Ironsides

Canut9: The ground I stand on Edmund is myne owne

1790

fallen to mee not svccessively indeed

but by forfeiture as Coppie hold

rentrunn and wantinge reperacōns

falls to the Lord, Even soe thiē ffathers Land

for want of Trybute payeing long sence Due

I Cease vppon as Lord to thee and that

1745 *familliar*] *f* altered. *thoughtes*] sic. 1746 *onc*] sic, for *once* *regaind*] in
really *m* with first minim dotted. 1750 *Bireladye*] sic. 1752 *shall*] *all* altered. 1756 *for*]
r altered. 1762 *blabe*] sic. 1777 *mightest*] *m* two minims only. 1778 *greeves at*]
sic, for *greeves me at* 1781 *Ayleward*] *y* altered from *l* 1782 *Vlfkettle*] first *t* altered.
1786 *one an other*] sic. 1793 *rentrunn*] sic. 1794 *Even*] *e* altered from *n*

- Edmu:* But for thou shalt perceave that Edmund cann
temper the vnrvlye stomach of his rage
and moderate his lustie youthfull bloode
w^{ch} springes through every vayne to flye at thee 1800
Not half theis word^e wthout controleinge strokes
should from thie lipes have vomited theire spleene
Oh how my harte beates muchadoe I have
to make yt quiet tell I answer thee
Art thou the Lord of me and of my Land
vncivell Canutus knowest thou to whome thou speakest ?
This harte skornes all subieccōn
and this head lookes 'ore the world, theis feete
were made to tread ore kinges, Canutus over thee
Nay storme not Canutus, learne how to mix thie speech 1810
wth more beseeinge tearmes, and gouern thou
thie surly tearmes wth reason not wth rage
I saye I am a kinge, soe arte not thou
therefore I am thie better, I saye more
I have a kingdome, this I stand vppon
is mine, Thou standst vppon my ground
I saye this Land is mine, Canutus yt is mine :
Canutg: By vsurpacōn thine, by Conquest mine
whoe knowes not conquest is inheritage
Edmund: Soe rape and theft is true possessio 1820
yf malifactors goe vnpunished
Canutg: It seems indeed possession is of force
for by possession you wth hould my Crowne
Edmund: Nay [*Swaine* and] you and *Swaine* yo^r griple minded Dad <
by treason not by force of valliant armes <
against all iustice, Lawe and equitie <
did first intrude yo^r selves, and then extrude <
o^r woefull subiectes from theire native home <
and that I Come to proue and there fore thus : } *he drawe*<
Canutg:/ Then to confute thie forged argument <
thus argue I, my sword is Resons prooffe } Hee Dr<
Edmund: That is of force to put backe reasons prooffe <
w^{ch} proues you like yo^r sword vnreasonable <

They trayne their souldio
the stage Edricus speake

Edricus: Edmund is stronge, Canute is weake in p
Edmund gracious in the peoples eies
Canutus is not soe, what had I best to doe
faine would I haue Canutus wine and hee is wea
I would haue Edmund loose and hee is stronge
oh gracious starrs in spire my nimble witt
wth some device, and as I ever have
I will imploye yt to some villanie
soft, lett mee see, oh it is exelent
fountaine of witt, the springe of polleceye
the flower of treason, and of villanie
how much vndecent is yt that this cappe
this homely Cape, should overload this Crowe
when thou deservest a Crowne of beaten gold
but to the matter soe yt needes must fadge
for can I bringe them to a single fight
hosoeuer hath the better yett shall I
be gracious in his eie, as whoe should saye
I was the Causer of his victory

1840

1850

1798 *unrulye*] second *v* and *y* altered, *e* altered from *r*
a minim. 1800 *vayne*] *yn* altered. 1803 *muchadoe*] sic. 1799 *moderate*] *o* altered from
1806 *uncivell*] *vnci* was accidentally crossed through in marking the preceding omission. What looks rather like a final *e*
added in different ink is really an offset from the opposite page. 1820 *possessio*] sic. 1825
valliant] *t* crowded in. 1831 *prooffe*] *e* altered perhaps from *o* 1832 *put*] *p* altered
from *b* 1840 *Edmund*] *mun* six minims. 1848 *Cape*,] sic. *Crowe*] sic. 1852
hosoeuer] sic, *v* altered perhaps from *o*

besides I shall insinuate my self
 into the bosome of opinion
 and beestemed my cuntries buckler
 well Ile about it. meaninge noe mā good
 but that my speech may sheed kinge Edmunds blood

The Armies make towards one an other when 1870

Edricus standinge betwene sayeth

Edricus: Renowned Edmond first I speake to thee
 lett theis my woord^e proceedinge from true zeale
 begg at thy eares a little audience
 And worthic Canut⁹ sheath vp thy slaughtering sword
 tell I have spoke my mind that all may see
 my word^e proceede from perfect pietie

Edmond:/ Edricus bee breefe

Canut⁹: Goe toe Ile staye a little, but be not tedious

Alfricke:/ When the fox preaches then beware the geese 1870

Edricus: What strive you for Imperious Ironside?
 Renowned Canut⁹ what doe yo^u leuell at?
 wee daylie to appease yo^r mortall warrs
 offer o^r slaughtred bodies to the sword
 yet neither of yo^u haue the vpper hande
 to daye hee that was foyld to morrow foyles
 Hee that even now did faintly sound retreat
 renewes againe the fight wth doble force
 thus in quadryes hanges the victory
 and wavering fortune frownes and smiles on both

1880

Canut⁹ is not to bee overcome
 because his Brother *Swaine* doth succor him
 and Edmond likewise is invincible
 for force and vallour hewes him through his foes
 what then is thend, of this yo^r enles grudge
 none other but when all yo^r men bee slaine

> you then must fight alone or els accord
 > and hee that then is kinge shall rule noe meñ
 > nor governe nations, for consumeinge warr
 > will quite devoure this solatary Ile 1890
 > not leaveinge anie. over whome to rule
 >)r to resist forraine invacōns
 > yf love of kingedomes bee the cause of this
 > suppress the boyleinge of yo^r haughtie mindes
 > you haue approved yo^r souldiers forwardnesse
 > Then now at last shake hande and ioyn in league
 > agree like noble kinges and pte the Land
 > have now compassion of this little Ile
 > whose soyle is manurd wth Carkasses
 > and made a sea wth bloode of inocent 1900
 > But yf yo^r emulacōn bee soe greate
 > that either skornes to have competitors
 > and Brooke not equals in yo^r [d . g] dignities
 > fight then alone that would bee kinge alone
 > lett not all perish for the wills of Twoe
 > but Lett yo^r sworde decid whose tytles best
 Edmond: Edricke thou hitst the marke I levell at
 thy Counsell cominge from a zelous harte
 fitte in all poynte our expectacōn

1857 *beestemed*] sic. 1858 *noe*] altered probably from *m* and the beginning of *a*
 1861 *betwene*] *t* altered from *e* 1869 *tedious*] *d* altered. 1879 *quadryes*] sic.
 1882 *him*] altered from *hm* 1885 *thend,*] sic. *enles*] sic. 1888 *meñ*] ñ touched
 up. 1890 *solatary*] sic. 1904 *then alone*] second *n* altered from *m* by blotting out the
 last minim. 1907 *hitst*] first *t* perhaps altered. 1908 *cominge*] *in* altered.

Knowe I accept thereof, and offer heere
to prove even hand in single fight
w^{ch} of vs Twoe shall weare the Diadem

Canutg: Edmund *Reporte* shall never whett her tongue
vppon *Canutg* to eternize thee
I skorne to staine my reputacōn
wth abiect tytles of pale Cowardice
to make the famous in opinions mouth
I heere accept thie challenge and his speech
glad of so fitt a tyme to bee revengd
for all those foule dishonnors thou hast done
and glad for spareinge of that guiltles bloode
w^{ch} in or quarrells this daye had bine shed
Oh had this daye bine but a yeaere agoe
manie a tall man had bine now alive
manie a salt teare had bine now vnshed
by fathers for their soñes vnhappye Deathes
by mothers for their Childrens wretched endē
and widdowes for their husbandē tyneles want
But I am glad this longe expected hower
at laste is Come

1920

Egina: / My Lord yo^u shall not fight

Canutg: My Lady but I will, will yo^u fight for me?
give her my sword and shield: /

Edm: and Emma talkes together, Edm: turnes a<

Emma: / Yet heare mee good my Lord
will yo^u on whome the state doth sole depend
or welfare, all the Realmes, yo^r frindē and kinsfolke
hazard the lose of all vppon the Chaunce
of fickell fortune, sence the better mā
is soner killd by over hardnesse
then an advised cowarde good my Lord
yt is vndecent you should fight wth him
beinge noe kinge nor haveinge ought to loosē

Edmond: Madam his life is even to him as deere
as mine to mee, besides hee is a prince
of noble blood and high resolved spritt

1930

1940

and yf hee weare not, yet my Cause beinge <g
 and Iustice on my side I would not feare <
 nay could not wth my honno^r but accept <
 the speech of *Edricke* and in single fight <
 approve my tytle lawfull good a right <
 Then madam be content and you shall see <
 the god in whome I trust will svccor mee <
 were hee Golias, I the little kinge <
 I would not feare, him on his knees to bringe <
 But hee hath rather Cause to doute of mee <
 I beinge bigge, and far more stronge then hee <

1950

Egina talkes wth Canut9, Canut9 turnes away<

Canut9:/ I had rather fight wth him then skould wth yo^u

Egina:/ I cannot speake but straight yo^u saye I skould

1960

Canut9:/ Then sweetinge you must learne yo^r tongue to hould <

nay now youle blubber 'goe too take this kisse <

and pray for mee, whie staye you Ironside <

1911 Probably we should read either *even handed and in* or *even hand to hand in*
 1917 *the*] sic. 1925 *now*] *no* altered from *w* 1928 *tyneles*] sic. 1938 *lose*] sic.
 1946 *spritt*] sic. 1948 *side*] *d* blotted, perhaps altered. 1951 *a*] sic. 1953 *svccor*] *v*
 altered from two minims. 1955 *knees*] *n* altered. 1962 'goe' the mark, printed as an
 apostrophe, might be a comma after *must* in the line above, and may have been intended to
 stand after *blubber*

Edmond: Beecause I thinke thou art not fitt to Dye
 but rather with Egina fitt to crye
 My Lord^e I do Comaund you for yo^r lives
 none bee soe hardy as to svccor me
 or to approch vs eare the fight bee done
 but yf I dye to make my sepulcher
 even in the place where as I tooke my death
 settinge my Crowne vppon Canut⁹ head
 and doe to him as to yo^r soueraigne

1970

Canut⁹: Even soe brave followers I will yo^u doe
 to Edmond heere, yf Edmund Conquer mee
 sound Dru^ms and Trumpitte^e wth yo^r warlike noyes
 either begine my ioye, or end my ioyes
*The Trumpitte sound the Armies doe Compasse
 the Twoe king^e in the midst, they fight*

Canut⁹: Staye: hould thie hand I prethee breth a while

Edmond: Not tell thou yealdst or dies.

1980

Edm: drives: Canut⁹ about

Canut⁹: Staye Edm:
 tis not for I feare thie fortitud
 That thus I crave thee stay, but that I wante
 the vse of breth to prosecute the fight

Edmond:/ Then breath awhile, I giv the leave torest

E^drcus:/ I feare Canut⁹ wilbee ouercome
 then shall I wish my tongue the Cause thereof
 had bine cutt out when yt begane to speake
 for I desire to Drinke kinge Edmund^e blood
 because hee ever sought to doe mee good

1990

> South: *Egina* bee content I warrant yo^u I

> Canut⁹ will doe well inough

E^dgina:/ I feare him much

E^dmond What are yee reddy

> Canut⁹: I to bee thie death } *they fight againe Edm: driues Canut⁹
 } backe aboute the Stage*

> anut⁹: Stay Edmond staye

> Canut⁹ yeald^e to thee

> icus: what will he bace'ly yeald the divell fore fend

2000

>nutg: Take w^{ch} of theis thou wilt my hand or sword
 > my hand bringes frendshipe ferme immoveable
 > my sword bringes enmitie irrivocable
 >mond: Brave Canutus in yealdinge thou hast wone
 > that w^{ch} thie sword could never doe
 > thy tongue hath brought to passe by gentle speech
 > Canutg take my hand, heere lyes my sword
 > Emond is thine, his thine, himself and all
 > now lett vs strive whoe shall demerit best
 > by mutuall kindnes whoe shall be termd afrind
 >anutg:/ How plesant are theis speeches to my eares
 > *Æolian* musicke to my daunceinge harte
 > Ambrosian dainties to my starved mawe
 sweete passinge *Nectar* to my thirstie throate
 rare *Culleasses* to my sicke glvttd mide
 Refreshinge oyntmentē to my wearied Limbes
 and heavenly phisicke to my earth sicke soule
 w^{ch} erst was surfited wth woe and warr

2010

1964 *Because*] *au* blotted, possibly altered. 1967 *svccor*] *v* altered from *c* and second *c*
 from *o* and *o* from *r* 1975 *sound*] *nd* probably altered from *m* and] *d* altered from *n*
 1979 *prethee*] first *e* blotted. 1986 *the*] sic. *toreset*] sic. 1987 *Edrcus*] sic.
 2000 *bace'ly*] sic, cf. 280. 2001 *wilt*] *l* perhaps altered. 2002 *immoveable*] *mm* has
 five minims only. 2003 *irrivocable*] sic. 2008 *Emond*] sic. *is thine*] *n*
 altered from *e* 2010 *afrind*] sic. 2011 *plesant*] *nt* altered from *in* *are*] *r*
 altered perhaps from *e* 2013 *starved*] *r* altered from *v* 2014 *throate*] *o* altered.
 2015 *glvttd*] *lv* altered from *w* *mide*] sic. 2017 *heavenly*] *h* altered. *earth*] *r*
 altered perhaps from *t*

Edmond: Lett mee imbrace the warr begotten frinde} They imbr(a FOL. 118^a
 god graunte as broth(r)s wee may longe embrace < 2020
 and sweete Egina for thie husbande sake <
 in signe of Love this kisse from Edmond take:} Edm: kisses Eg<
 But Lorde whie stand you still greeve yo^u to see
 Canut⁹ and your kinge soe well agree

Alfricke:/ The inward sollace w^{ch} o^r hartes conseave
 to see peace growe where foule debate was sowne
 to see sweete concord springe from Discorde wombe
 to see warr bringe forth love and amitye
 to see Two mortall foes prove faithfull frinde
 and *Mars* drinke milke in stead of purple blood 2030
 doth force o^r tongues o^r hartes Cheife orrators
 to shewe wth silence ioye vnspeake able
 yet Lorde behold even as yo^u doe imbrace
 soe in dumbe shewes wee all vnite o^r hartes} the Lorde imbrace

Turkill⁹: Remember Leofricke o^r Childrens losse

Leofricke: Turkillus I doe and must serve the tyme
 and waite vppon occasion for revenge
 a daye of mirth begines a woefull yeare
 as suddaine stormes doe follow sunne shine Cleare

Edmond:/ Nowe noble Lord⁹ lett vs like frinde Consult 2040
 vppon particōn of this noble Ile
 yo^r self shall Choose w^{ch} pte yo^u thinke is best
 the East or west, the Right hand or the left
 my Courte is yo^{rs} my Counsellors are yo^{urs}
 my frindes yo^r frindes, thie foe my Enimie
 my people yo^{rs} my treasure and my self
 all are yo^r owne, for yo^u shall all co^mmand

Canutus: Thankes noble brother and my second self
 in all thy art⁹ thou dost excell thie self
 foule shame on them that are thie enimies < 2050

and vengeance light on them that thinke the ill <
 Edricus:/ Bloode, Death and vengeance light on both of<
 Edmond./ Goe vnto oʳ Coste and feast vs there <
 and there conclude an ever lastinge pea<
 Sound Druñes and Trumpitte heere ende <w
 thus hand in hand and harte in harte <w
 Edricus:/ And I for one tis meete yt should bee <s
 thus wise men can desemble what they th<
 and till occaçon fitte them sleepeinge win<
 But I have sworne and I will keepe my vo<
 by heaven Ile bee revengd on both of yo^u <
They goe hande in hand out off th< > <
Edricus leadeinge the Druñe <

2060

Finis


 KING ALFRED'S COLLEGE
 LIBRARY

2022 *kisse*] *k* altered perhaps from *L* 2025 *conseave*] sic. 2029 *faithfull*] *fa* altered.
 2032 *unspeake able*] sic. 2035 *Turkill9*] first *l* altered. 2036 *Turkillus*] *T* altered
 possibly from the beginning of *N* 2044 *yours*] *y* altered. 2045 *Enimie*] *E* altered from *e*
 2051 *them*] *m* two minims only. *the*] sic. 2054 *conclude*] *cl* altered. 2058 *desemble*]
m two minims only. 2064 The verso of fol. 118 is blank.



